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THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.

"DON'T whistle till you are out of the wood," is a bit of proverbial wisdom which the British public, we imagine, must think peculiarly applicable to the settlement of the little "difficulty" with the United States which "grew out of" the exploits of the Alabama and her consorts. For a good many months past we have all been quite jubilant—whistling vigorously—over the notion that that affair had been satisfactorily disposed of by the Treaty of Washington. But it seems that there is reason to fear we were all mistaken. Brother Jonathan has been "too smart" for us. We imagined that all the sentimental wrongs charged against us by the Americans, and the huge mass of damages piled up by Mr. Sumner on the foundation of those sentimental wrongs, were "in the deep bosom of the ocean buried," and that we had now only to deal with hard facts and the acknowledged dicta of international law applicable thereto. No

such luck! The sentimental wrongs and their resultant damages are as much alive as ever, and are all paraded in the "case" laid before the Geneva arbitrators on behalf of the United States.

By the Treaty of Washington the settlement of the claims "generically known as the Alabama claims" was to be referred to certain arbitrators, mutually approved, who were to decide—1st, Whether Great Britain had been guilty of any lapse of duty in permitting the Alabama and her consorts to escape to sea, and so to become Confederate cruisers; and, secondly, If so, what "sum in gross" Great Britain ought to pay to the United States as compensation for damage "growing out of" that lapse. The arbitrators were chosen; and, having met at Geneva, a "case" on each side was laid before them. As we have said, the British public—and, it is to be hoped, the British Commissioners—were under the impression that, even if our Government

were proved to have been guilty of neglect of duty, this country would only be liable for the damages *directly* resulting from that neglect, all claims on account of *indirect*, or constructive, injury being waived. That does not appear to be the view of the Americans, however; for in their "case" compensation is claimed for every sort of damage that can be conceived to have "grown out of" the circumstances that certain vessels managed to make their way to sea from British ports, and, although unarmed when they escaped, to have become warlike cruisers under the Confederate flag. In this way we are asked to make good,—first, the direct damage done through the capture and destruction of United States merchant-ships; second, the loss caused by the increased rate of insurance; third, the injury done to the American mercantile marine by its transfer to British owners; fourth, the enhanced cost of putting down the rebellion caused by the encouragement



CONVALESCENT : THE FIRST WALK OF THE PRINCE OF WALES AFTER HIS ILLNESS.



these cruisers gave the Confederates to persevere in resistance; and, fifth, compensation for the loss of life occasioned by that prolonged resistance. As these two last-named items are totally unascertained quantities, and are probably unascertainable except by the exercise of a vivid imagination, it is clear that there is practically no limit to the demands of the Americans; especially as it seems to be expected that we should also pay them a solatium for their wounded feelings in not receiving from Englishmen that sympathy in their troubles which, as friends and kindred, the people of America—that is, of the Federal States—fancy they had a right to expect. For no other purpose, save to build up a claim on this purely sentimental score, can the compilers of the American case have hoped to serve by the long extracts they give from the utterances of public men in this country, which, it is contended, gave encouragement to the Confederates; and this, too, though some of the speeches were not uttered until after the close of the war.

Now, it may possibly be, as is alleged by some, that all this piling-up of agony is merely addressed to "buncombe," and designed to tell in the approaching Presidential election; it may possibly also be, as others opine, that the Americans make a big demand on the principle that the more that is asked the more is likely to be obtained; and that we need not alarm ourselves about the matter, as such monstrous demands are certain to be rejected by the arbitrators. All this may be true; but, nevertheless, the affair wears an ugly look—so ugly, that the propriety of at once repudiating the treaty, or having it amended, is being gravely discussed in the press. One of two things seems certain: either we are being frightened by a bugbear, or the British Commissioners have allowed themselves to be overreached by the Yankees, and have permitted the Treaty of Washington to be couched in such vague terms as to be capable of any interpretation the Americans choose to put upon them. In any case our Government appears to have a hard nut to crack before the stage of appraising damages is even reached; and it may turn out (though we hope otherwise) that the settlement of the "differences between the Government of the United States and the Government of her Britannic Majesty," which the Treaty of Washington was supposed to have achieved, is as far off as ever.

NO COMPULSION—ONLY YOU MUST.

The Duke of Newcastle is the true descendant of his grandfather—there can be no doubt about that. He evidently inherits all that famous nobleman's notions touching "doing what he likes with his own"—"his own" meaning the votes of his tenants; only the present Duke puts the thing a little differently. He graciously gives his tenants leave to vote for which of the candidates for North Notts they like; but, if they wish to please his Grace, they will support the Tory, in whose favour the Duke has decided predilections. Royal requests, it is said, are equivalent to commands; and we suspect the Duke of Newcastle intends his permission to be interpreted in the same way, else why interfere in the North Notts election at all? Absolute reticence would have better become his Grace in every way. It is understood to be a rule of the British Constitution that Peers shall not interfere in the election of members of the House of Commons; but of course the Duke of Newcastle is above Constitutional rules, though no doubt, like the rest of the party to which he appears to belong, a great stickler for the Constitution. Then his Grace is a bankrupt, and an Act was passed last Session disqualifying bankrupts from taking part in the proceedings of the House of Lords. This, by implication, forbids their meddling with politics while their bankruptcy endures; for if a Peer be unfit to legislate by reason of insolvency, for the same cause he is unfit to dictate in the choosing of legislators. So his Grace of Newcastle is above statute law as well as understood (though unwritten) Constitutional rule. But, then, he has—or thinks he has—a right to "do what he likes with his own;" and that accounts for the whole matter. Unless, indeed, we take into account, as no doubt we should, the Duke's "distrust of Mr. Gladstone" because of the latter's "tampering with the Dilkites," and, perhaps, in consequence of the restraints the Premier, in his capacity of trustee of the Newcastle estates, may have felt compelled to put upon his distruster. The "Dilkites," of course, are very horrible fellows; but scarcely more disreputable, one would think, than the ordinary run of turfites and spendthrift bankrupts, among whom his Grace's lot has principally been cast—through no fault of his own, we dare say. So it seems to us that the noble Duke has not much to gird at, after all; and he might have remembered the proverb touching residents in glass houses throwing stones. Seriously, we protest against this sham affectation of liberality to dependents—for tenants-at-will, without the protection of the ballot, are practically political dependents of their landlords—but real domineering, which has recently become much too common with persons of the position and mental calibre of the Duke of Newcastle.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

The first occasion on which the Prince of Wales was able to exercise his returning strength by a walk in the open air was on Thursday, Jan. 25. The weather for a few hours was fine and enjoyable, and his Royal Highness proceeded on foot from Sandringham House up the gentle acclivity to the westward, and honoured General Sir William Knollys with a visit at his residence, Park House, the distance being slightly under a quarter of a mile. After a sufficient interval of rest the Prince returned home in his basket-carriage. His Royal Highness was looking surprisingly well, considering his severe illness and long confinement to the house.

This visit, however, was not the only one made last week by his Royal Highness. From the moment at which he became aware of facts which had occurred during his illness he was most anxious

to call on a poor woman named Dodman, who is lying ill at West Newton, and, accompanied by the Princess of Wales, who drove a miniature phaeton and four, he carried that purpose into effect. Though not able to leave the carriage, the Prince sent to the patient a message expressive of his sympathy and deep interest in her case. She is doing well, and is in a fair way of recovery.

The Prince has given audience on several occasions to the various officers of his household and estate, to the affairs of which he devotes daily a certain portion of time. He also manifests the greatest interest in the intended exhibition at Lynn of the Norfolk Agricultural Society, and has given instructions that stock from the Royal farm shall be prepared for competition in several of the classes.

His Royal Highness continues to improve in health, and daily drives out in an open phaeton, accompanied by the Princess, leaving the carriage and taking walks in suitable localities. In this way he has visited most parts of the Sandringham estate and many of the adjacent villages. On Sunday it was thought probable by many persons that the Prince would attend the morning service at Sandringham church, and there was consequently an influx of visitors from Lynn and the neighbourhood. The Prince, however, was unable to sustain the fatigue of sitting through so long a service, and therefore a special Divine service was held in the hall of Sandringham House at ten a.m., at which the Prince and Princess and the entire household were present. The Rev. W. Lake Onslow officiated as private chaplain to their Royal Highnesses.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The manifesto of the Count de Chambord is for the moment the principal topic of discussion in Paris. At a reception held by M. Thiers on Tuesday, at which M. Guizot was present, the latter expressed an opinion that the manifesto of the Count was an impediment to the fusion of the Orleans family; that, consequently, a Monarchy was impossible, and a Republic the only possible Government.

The Assembly has adopted, by 406 against 265 votes, the first article of the Government bill on the taxation of the merchant navy. It establishes a surtax on merchandise imported by foreign flags of 75c. per 100 kilogrammes for vessels from Europe and the Mediterranean, of 11f. on vessels from countries on this side of Cape Horn and the Cape of Good Hope, of 2f. on vessels from beyond those points, excepting only French colonies.

In Wednesday's sitting of the Assembly the debate on the question of giving notice of withdrawal from the Anglo-French Treaty of Commerce was commenced. M. Thiers was present. M. Raudot opposed the withdrawal from the Treaty, and dwelt particularly upon the alienation between England and France which such a step would produce. The same consequences would result with Italy, Switzerland, and Belgium, States whose sympathies have hitherto leaned towards France. If France adopted a Protectionist policy, these States would inevitably gravitate towards Prussia. The Free Trade arguments brought forward by M. Raudot were warmly applauded by the Left and a portion of the Right. M. Reverchon, a Protectionist, and M. Echasseraux, a Freethinker, followed. M. Raoul Duval advocated immediate notice of withdrawal, while expressly reserving the question of the tariffs. This step, he said, was necessary to enable France completely to reverse her commercial and fiscal system.

M. Pouyer-Quertier stated on Tuesday, before the Budget Committee, that he would assist the Committee in every way in seeking taxes to replace the proposed taxation on raw material, but he feared that their efforts would be fruitless. The Government was more than ever convinced that the taxation of raw material was the least onerous and the only resource. The Government, he added, would never consent to a tax on invoices and business transactions.

A Syndicate, representing seventy Chambers of the National Industrial Union, unanimously favours a tax on commercial transactions instead of the taxation of raw material.

The Minister of War has stated positively before the Committee of Parliamentary Initiative that the Government could on no account consent to raise the state of siege in Paris. The Government must be armed against the Bonapartist party, which was very active, and against the liberated Communists, but the state of siege would not be used to make fresh arrests. The Government favoured the principle of an amnesty, but preferred that the military tribunals should first terminate the examination of the prisoners. This would be effected in about two months, and the amnesty could then be extended to all fitting cases. General Cissey stated that 19,222 prisoners had been liberated up to the present moment, and 3743 had been sentenced; 12,045 remain in the hulks.

In Paris, on Sunday, the anniversary of the capitulation of the city to the Germans was very generally kept. The majority of the women were dressed in mourning; the churches were unusually crowded; more shops were closed than usual; and all public places of amusement were shut. At the same time no demonstrations were permitted of a kind likely to be offensive to Prussia, or reflecting upon the Government of the National Defence.

The national subscription at Marseilles has reached 420,000f. The ladies of Saverne have subscribed 1630f. Some delegates from Nancy and the deputies and councillors of Paris have met, under the presidency of M. Vautrain, to discuss a proposal for the formation of a Parisian syndicate for organising a national subscription. The Prefect, M. Léon Say, is not favourable to the project; but he will open the Mairies of Paris for the reception of subscriptions.

The Syndicates of Aix, Vichy, Plombières, and Barréges have drawn up a petition soliciting the abrogation of the law of 1836 against public gaming-tables. They offer to pay the whole debt of their respective towns, and an additional sum of forty millions to the State, if a company be formed as they propose. It is stated that M. Thiers favourably received a deputation which recently waited on him for the purpose of proposing the re-establishment of the gambling-table in France. Several of the Paris papers advocate the measure; and M. Ernest Feydeau, the novelist, recently urged in an article that if it were adopted the German indemnity might soon be paid. He at the same time defended public gaming as a means of reconciling the poor with their lot. M. Thiers was instrumental in abolishing public gambling in France in 1836, but he now said to be favourable to its restoration.

The editor of the *Radical* has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment and a fine of 5000f., and the manager to two months' and a fine of 1000f., for an outrage against religion and morality. The *Rappel* and the *Pays*, recently suppressed by the French Government, were led to suppose that they would be allowed to reappear on the 4th inst. According to the *Soir*, they have now been officially informed that the suspension will be indefinitely prolonged.

Two rich farmers—father and son—have been sentenced to five years' imprisonment, by the Assize Court of Versailles, for supplying the Prussians with cattle and grain during the war. The prisoners in their defence said they only did what everybody else did at the time, and that, moreover, all their supplies were furnished in accordance with requisitions from the Mayor of Versailles. The Court held, however, that the Mayor acted under constraint, and that the accused lent their credit to revictual the enemy to an undue extent.

Special inspectors charged with the supervision of the labour of children in factories are about to be appointed.

BELGIUM.

The master carpenters and joiners of Brussels, being determined to oppose the strike, have closed their workshops. Numerous bands of journeymen carpenters have been patrolling the streets.

SPAIN.

Some disturbances have occurred in Barcelona in consequence of the re-establishment of the octroi duties there. On Tuesday the crowds burnt down the octroi receiving-house. At seven in the evening shots were fired at the troops in the square of San Jaime. The troops returned the fire, killing two of the rioters and wounding one. Tranquillity has now been restored, and measures have been taken to prevent a renewal of the disturbances.

ITALY.

The committee on the Budget has adopted the loan of 300 million lire.

It is reported that the Italian Government proposes shortly to bring in a bill suppressing the religious orders, confiscating ecclesiastical estates even when international, assigning to the general superiors of religious orders their place of residence, and converting Papal Rentes into Italian Rentes. This rumour, although emanating from good authority, is warmly contested.

Advices from Rome state that considerable annoyance prevails there in consequence of the non-arrival of the representative of France at the Court of Victor Emmanuel. The representatives of Great Britain, Austria, Prussia, Russia, and Belgium have all established themselves in the new capital of Italy, and the people are at a loss to understand why the representative of France does not do the same. The annoyance is heightened by the fact that the French Government has sent an Ambassador to the Vatican, though none of the other Powers have adopted the same course, and that he loses no opportunity of somewhat ostentatiously displaying his Papal sympathies.

A new journal has appeared at Rome with the programme of "war to Catholic institutions." It is said that Father Hyacinthe is one of the writers.

GERMANY.

The Roman Catholic question came before the Lower House of the Prussian Diet on Tuesday. Two of the members having blamed the abolition of the Catholic department attached to the Ministry, the new Minister of Public Worship, Dr. Falk, expressed his intention to leave the Roman Catholic Church perfect liberty while protecting the rights of the State. Prince Bismarck said the formation of a Centre party in the Chamber was a grave mistake, as it signified a party movement against the State, and that its true spirit and object had been shown in the elections and in the press. The Catholic press acted with one common accord, and might be termed a friend of France and of a Confederation of the Rhine. It would be better, he said, to have a Papal Nuncio openly fulfilling his mission than a department in the Ministry such as had hitherto existed.

The *Official Gazette* of Wednesday publishes a law extending to Alsace and Lorraine the clause of the Imperial German Constitution which relates to the military system, as well as the provisions of the law on obligation to military service. The law does not apply to persons born in Alsace or Lorraine previous to Jan. 1, 1851.

INDIA.

The Looshai expedition continues to advance, and some fighting has taken place. General Bourchier and staff left camp on the 25th, with the wing of the 4th Native Infantry. They were fired on by a large party of Looshais, who were concealed in the bed of a rocky stream, with heavy jungle on both sides. The enemy were driven out by a brilliant charge of infantry, chased up a hill 5500 ft. high, and afterwards driven from two formidable positions. General Bourchier was wounded in the head and arm, but not severely. A desperate attempt was also made to annoy the rear, but the enemy suffered severely, and were driven off. A telegram from Calcutta announces that a Looshai village was burnt on the 29th, with considerable loss to the enemy, but none to the troops of the expedition.

General Nuthall reports the escape from Looshai to his camp of 207 Munipore captives. Some of them have been prisoners for thirty years.

Several of the Indian papers condemn the destruction of grain which is being accomplished by the expedition against the Looshais. The *Bombay Gazette* says:—"We read of one village after another burnt to the ground, with immense stores of food collected by the miserable population to feed them for many months to come. This work of destruction appears to be carried out with pitiless severity, though the resistance to the advance of the British troops is so trifling that there is, in truth, no 'enemy' for the troops to contend against." The *Englishman* writes in stronger terms. It maintains that it is "a piece of the most inhuman barbarity, utterly disgraceful to a civilised people, to destroy the entire stock of food of a remote and isolated people. The *Times of India* thinks that the 'semi-barbaric' Looshai expedition and the 'absurd Wahabee prosecutions' will be cited as two notable blots on Lord Mayo's reign.

The Viceroy arrived at Rangoon, in the flag-ship Glasgow, on Sunday. He landed on Monday afternoon, when he was enthusiastically received.

THE CENSORSHIP OF TELEGRAMS.—The annual report of the directors of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce contains the reply of the Postmaster-General to the resolution which the board passed some time ago condemning the action of Mr. Scudamore in intercepting and delaying private telegrams during the strike of telegraph operators. The following is the Postmaster-General's letter:—"General Post Office, London, Jan. 20, 1872.—Sir,—I am directed by the Postmaster-General to acknowledge the resolution of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce complaining of the delay of telegrams by the department during the recent strike. Mr. Monell desires me to call your attention to the fact that the department had to deal not only with an organised opposition within itself, but also with an intention to put the public to the greatest inconvenience as a means of coercion. When it was found that the machinery of the department was used against the objects for which it was established, the necessity arose for immediate action in the interest of the public, and the detention of the telegrams of which you complain was made openly and without any attempt at concealment. But the language of the Acts of Parliament bearing on the subject appears to Mr. Monell so clear and precise, and the importance of retaining public confidence in the inviolability of telegrams sent through the Post Office so manifest, that he has found himself unable to give an official sanction to proceedings which, nevertheless, he believes to have been dictated exclusively by a sense of public duty. Mr. Monell desires me to add that he has directed an order to be issued calling the attention of the department to the Acts of Parliament defining the duties of post office telegraph officers with respect to the transmission of telegraphic messages, and requiring strict obedience to the law."

THE LAST SEVEN CAPITAL SENTENCES.—Mr. William Tallack, secretary of the Howard Association, writes as follows on the above-named subject:—"The last seven capital sentences in England and their results (all within about a month) afford a most conclusive proof that the law of murder should be so amended, without delay, as to be at least capable of being generally carried out. At present it is not so, nor has it been so for many years, and the obstacles have increased till they have fairly brought about a dead-lock. In the first of the recent cases, the Derby murder, the Judge interposed and advised a commutation, which was granted. In the second and third cases, at Leicester, the prosecutor, all the jury, who had returned a verdict of guilty, and several members of Parliament, interposed with success to prevent the execution of the law. In the fourth instance, at Coventry, the Lord Lieutenant of the county, several M.P.s and magistrates, and a number of other persons interposed, and again with success. In the fifth case, at Cheltenham, a number of clergy, 'Friends' and others, interposed, but failed. This was the only one of the seven murderers upon whom the sentence was carried out. In the sixth and seventh instances (the Rev. Mr. Watson and Miss Edmunds) nearly the whole nation may be said to have successfully obstructed the carrying out of the law. Yet even the recommendations of the Judges in both instances, and of the medical men in the latter, although acted upon, are admitted to be in opposition to the law as it stands defined. In America statutes are sometimes passed, or retained, with an understanding that their operation shall be only nominal. But such a state of things is greatly to be deprecated here. All genuine respect for the laws and Constitution of England, and all due consideration for the successive Home Secretaries, now demands a prompt alteration of the statutes affecting murder. Public security also demands it. And many law-abiding subjects of the Queen are entitled to it, for, as an esteemed correspondent lately remarked to me in reference to two of the above cases, 'What a paradox it is that the best citizens should so often be called upon to prevent the execution of the laws of their country!'"

MANIFESTO OF THE COMTE DE CHAMBORD.

The following is a translation of a manifesto which has just been issued by the Comte de Chambord:

"The persistency of the efforts which seek to distort my words, my sentiments, and my acts compels me to make a protest, commanded by probity and imposed upon me by honour. Astonishment has been felt upon seeing me leave Chambord, when it would have been so agreeable to me to prolong my stay there, and my resolution has been attributed to a secret idea of abdication. I am not bound to justify the course I have laid down for myself. I pity those who have not understood me; but every hope based on the forgetfulness of my duties is a vain hope. I will never abdicate. After having for forty years preserved intact the Monarchical principle, the patrimony of France, the last hope of her grandeur and her liberties, I will not allow it to be injured in any way. Caesarism and anarchy still threaten us, because the safety of the country is sought for in personal questions instead of principles. The error of our time is to rely upon political expedients in order to escape from the perils of a social crisis. And two junior members for Birmingham, addressed their constituents, on Monday night, in the Townhall. The Mayor, Mr. John Sadler, presided, and was accompanied on the platform by prominent members of the Liberal party. Mr. Bright wrote:

had almost a boyish look when already an old soldier, and to the last looked younger than his age. His countenance and his manners were remarkably gentle and pleasing. He will be regretted by all who knew him, and his loss will be mourned by the whole Italian army.

THE MEMBERS FOR BIRMINGHAM AND THEIR CONSTITUENTS.

MR. GEORGE DIXON, M.P., and Mr. P. H. Muntz, M.P., the

two junior members for Birmingham, addressed their constituents,

on Monday night, in the Townhall. The Mayor, Mr. John Sadler,

presided, and was accompanied on the platform by prominent

members of the Liberal party. Mr. Bright wrote:

Rochdale, Jan. 27, 1872.
My dear Mr. Wright.—Your annual meeting is fixed for Monday next, and I regret very much that I am unable to be present at it. I am not sure that I ought not, two years ago, to have given up the office of your representative, when I found myself no longer capable of performing its duties; but I have trusted to the kindness of my friends, and have, I fear, trespassed somewhat too much upon it. Some months ago I thought I should have been able to be in Birmingham before the opening of the Session, but I dare not yet attempt to take part in, or to be present at, one of your great Townhall meetings. I expect, notwithstanding, that I shall be able to attend the House of Commons during some portion of the ensuing Session. I do not enter into political discussion, because I should require to write a pamphlet if I were only to touch upon the many questions which are now before the public, and which will soon come before Parliament. I hope the Session will be fruitful in good measures, and that determination to lessen the public expenditure may be manifested by the Administration and the House. I am very grateful to my friends for their long patience with me, and to my colleagues, Mr. Dixon and Mr. Muntz, that they have not permitted any matter specially affecting Birmingham to suffer from my absence.—Believe me always sincerely yours, JOHN BRIGHT.

Mr. J. S. Wright moved the following resolution:

That this meeting is of opinion that the present Liberal Government will not satisfy the first expectations of the people unless they take vigorous action in the ensuing Session of Parliament to secure the following objects—viz., the protection of the voter by means of the ballot, the repeal of the minority clauses in the last Reform Act, a redistribution of seats to remedy the present glaring inequality in the proportion of members to population, and such an alteration in the laws relating to the liquor traffic as shall recognise the right of the ratepayer to some control. He thought, if they read the signs of the times aright, they might see that there was looming in the distance, and not very far off, the breaking up of the Liberal party. It seemed to him that, for some reason or other, that party, whether from timidity or from disinclination to progress, was approaching disintegration. They might look for the party to be divided into two sections, the one consisting of the timid Liberals, and the other of the progressive Radicals. His resolution, so far as Birmingham was concerned, was putting the Government on its good behaviour; and they said that they expected the Government to take decided action on the great questions at issue next Session.

Mr. Loughton seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr. Dixon and Mr. Muntz having expressed their views on the topics of the day at considerable length, the following resolution was adopted:

That this meeting desires to express its hearty confidence in the borough members, and the great satisfaction it feels in the recovery of their senior member, Mr. Bright, and in the prospect that he will shortly resume his place in Parliament. The course taken by Messrs. Dixon and Muntz on the education question is highly satisfactory to this meeting, and it cordially approves of the resolutions on this subject which Mr. Dixon has expressed his intention to bring forward in the ensuing Session.

A vote of thanks to the chairman closed the proceedings.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.—The Joiners' Company has placed at the disposal of the Birkbeck Literary and Scientific Institution three prizes for the encouragement of technical education. The same company was pleased last year to present two prizes for a similar purpose. Since its foundation, in 1823, the Birkbeck Institution has continued to impart instruction in the arts and sciences. In so doing it has carried out the design of its benevolent founder, Dr. Birkbeck, whose efforts in this respect will be remembered by many. The council hopes that many other of the City companies will be led to follow in the steps of the Joiners' Company by instituting prizes for the extension of technical education.

A STRONG "INTEREST."—In the financial year 1870-1 no less than 347,723 Excise licences were granted to dealers in and retailers of excisable liquors used as beverages in the United Kingdom; the amount of duty charged was £1,297,541. The number was made up as follows:—To publicans there were granted 87,262 licences for retailing beer, 97,252 for retailing spirits, 46,379 for retailing wine, and 24,625 occasional licences. There were 47,555 licences granted to beer-shopkeepers; 4892 licences to retailers of wine to be consumed on the premises, and 3207 to retailers of wine in refreshment-houses; 339 licences for retailing beer, &c., in packet-boats; and 500 spirit licences to grocers in Ireland. There were 6608 licences granted to dealers in beer, and 4092 additional licences to retail; 6361 licences to dealers in spirits, and 3546 additional licences to retail; and 4331 licences to dealers in wine. There were 122 licences to makers and dealers in "sweets," and 10,392 licences to retailers. There were also granted 32,707 licences to brewers, 5323 to maltsters, 312 to distillers and rectifiers, and 6501 to refreshment-houses.

THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY ON EDUCATION.—The Marquis of Salisbury spoke at Manchester, on Monday, on education, the occasion being a meeting which was held in support of Mr. Woodward's system of public schools on Church principles for boys of the lower middle class. The noble Marquis observed that though they had passed a compulsory clause, though they had found money for the poor to put their children to school, though they had coaxed, wheeled, or bullied or drilled them to make use of their educational provision, still they had not arrived at a very satisfactory state of things. The idea of paternal government was not our idea of a free, independent, and self-supporting government. Our idea in all things, except education, was that people who were under government might see what was for their benefit, and make their own exertions to secure that benefit for themselves; but in this matter of education we were compelled by circumstances to make an exception, which degraded us to the level of a paternal government, and we were compelled to force, coax, wheedle, bully, or drill parents to educate their children. He ventured to say that, whatever their success in their present policy might be, this was not a satisfactory state of things. The real state of things at which they wanted to arrive was that all fathers in the country should recognise that their first duty was to educate their children, and should themselves come forward to find the means and instruments by which that great blessing could be received. And how was this to be done? It would never be done until they had made education, if he might use the word, the "fashion;" until they had got an opinion created and spread among the people that education was a good leader in the field, and had his full share in the various improvements made in the Sardinian army. He served in the campaign of 1859, distinguishing himself on every occasion; also in 1860, and was afterwards actively engaged in the repression of brigandage in Sicily.

In 1866 General La Marmora was President of the Council and Minister of Foreign Affairs. Govone enjoyed his full confidence; and he knew that his talents were diplomatic as well as military. He did not scruple to entrust him with the very delicate mission of arranging that alliance between Prussia and Italy which resulted in the campaign of 1866. It was a difficult negotiation, and many despaired of its success. History will record Govone's dexterity in bringing it to a happy issue. When he had done his duty as negotiator, he hastened to do it as a soldier. He had already been Lieutenant-General for two or three years (the youngest, probably, in any European army), and he received the command of a division in the numerous armies destined to operate against the Austrians in Venetia. At Custoza he commanded the ninth division, and was one of the three Generals who that day most distinguished themselves, and, by their bravery and skill, and by the steadiness of their troops, prevented the defeat from becoming a much greater disaster than it was. If Govone owed a debt of gratitude to La Marmora—and that he did so he was ever ready to acknowledge—he that day did much towards repaying it. After the war he was for some time in command of the Italian Staff Corps, which had its head-quarters in Florence. About the same time he was sent to the Chamber as deputy for Spoleto. In 1869, the Menabrea Ministry having resigned, Govone became Minister of War in the Lanza Cabinet. His acceptance of a post, at that time particularly arduous and ungrateful, was considered by his friends to be a fresh proof of his readiness to sacrifice himself to the service of his country. He never spared himself work, but that was not all he had to encounter. He was made the object of furious and bitter attacks; such as only the most unsparing rancour of party feeling could dictate, and from which his distinguished career, his unquestioned probity, and his amiable character ought certainly to have exempted him. Of a nervous, sensitive nature, and with little power as an orator, he was ill suited to stand the rude ordeal of Italian Parliamentary life. There seems little doubt that the mortifications he then encountered contributed to bring about the mental alienation with which he was afflicted during some of the last months of his life, but of which it is said there had been previous examples in his family. He died, on the 26th ult., at Alba, in Piedmont. He was no longer a deputy, and the announcement of his death by the President of the Chamber, next day, was a graceful and just acknowledgment of his high character, his remarkable abilities, and of the distinguished services he rendered his country.

General Govone was only forty-six years of age. He was a Piedmontese by birth. Small in person and of fair complexion, he

SIR JOHN BURGOYNE'S OPINION ON BRIGHTON REVIEWS.

The following letter was addressed by the late Field Marshal Sir John Burgoine to General Sir Hope Grant in support of his remarks upon the volunteer review at Brighton last year:

My dear Sir Hope,—I trust that I am not intruding too far in venturing to express to you my humble opinion of the good sense contained in your report on the late Easter Volunteer Review, notwithstanding the sensitiveness shown by some of that body to what they consider as censures on some of the proceedings. The volunteers are a patriotic force, deserving great credit and encouragement, and may be of immense value among the measures for the military protection of the country; but it is, no doubt, a matter for deep consideration to study the principles and system which will turn their special organisation to the best account. But you have not said a word that was indicative of any wilful, unworthy action on their part; on the contrary, you give them credit for everything they could possibly be expected to acquire. When we consider that it is admitted that it requires two or three years in camp and barracks, constantly and exclusively occupied in military duties, to make a good soldier, and to make an efficient officer a preliminary long study and education adapted to the profession, to be tested by rigid examinations, it may be understood how very inferior must be the efficiency of bodies like the volunteers, who take it up as a new pursuit to which they can only give a few hours occasionally from their habitual more of the simplest nature, and though they would be quite unequal to form part of any considerable force to compete in a campaign with the highly-organised armies of the leading military nations they would form admirable garrisons for fortifications and for the protection of detached positions, such as mercantile harbours, and from desultory attacks of the enemy, and thus relieve the regulars from all such extraneous duties. The same disadvantage under which the volunteers labour, in the imperfect degree in which they can be accomplished in the military profession, renders it desirable that they should only attempt what is of the most simple character; and therefore they should not venture on services that require peculiar study and practice, such as field artillery with all its complicated arrangements, though they might very readily undertake a great portion of the work of garrison artillery. The only exception to this principle would be in the volunteer engineers, who, being composed, as is usual, of professional engineers and mechanics, would on their very entrance to the service be thoroughly versed in the most important duties which in their military capacity they will be called upon to perform. The objections you raise to the system of such a review as that at Brighton appear to me to be well founded, and on which it was your duty to give an opinion; nor do I perceive that they contain, as seems to be imputed, any reflections peculiarly on the volunteers. The assemblage of a body of some 20,000 volunteers, or even of other troops, from forty or fifty miles distance, on a morning, to return home in the evening, may be a worthy effort as a display of their appearance and primary organisation, on which occasion they might go through some few evolutions of an ordinary field day, but is ill calculated for the trial and practice of extemporised elaborate strategical exercises and contests, which should have a more varied and extensive field of action, and a more systematic basis of preparations, including as much as may be the application of all the accessories of an army in the field in addition to the simple parade of bodies of men for an action. It may be hoped that all this may be eventually established, commencing with the regulars, and introducing militia and volunteers as occasion may offer.

GATHERING RESIN AND MAKING PITCH IN GERMANY.

WHAT the bamboo is to the inhabitants of the lands of the sun the pine is to European nations. We do everything with it but eat its fruit; for it must be remembered that pine-apples do not grow on pine-trees, but are the fruit of quite another kind of plant, and only take their name from the resemblance they bear to the regular pine-cones. But the Romans used the pine-cones to flavour their wine, and some modern nations do the same. The Laplanders grind the inner bark of the Scotch pine into a kind of coarse flour, to make bread. Pinemeal and oatmeal, mixed into dough and baked in a pan or plate, are said to make tolerable cakes. In Siberia the people eat the young shoots. Pine chips have sometimes been used as a substitute for hops, and—for we are wrong, after all, about not eating, at least, some products of the pine—stone-pine kernels are made into pleasant *entremets* in France and Italy; while spruce and spruce-beer are brewed from the sappy twigs of the spruce fir. To go into all the uses of the timber would be to write a volume; but, as an example of the various uses of this glorious tree, let us take the Norway spruce fir. In addition to the numerous applications of the timber, we burn the rough wood for making charcoal, and get potash from the residue; the bark is used for tanning; the buds and shoots make spruce beer; the cones are a medicine against scurvy; the young shoots serve for fodder; the green tops are strewed in rooms and paths as a sweet, fresh carpet for welcome guests; the inner bark makes baskets; and the long, slender rootlets are manufactured into cordage. Then there is the juice, or sap, of the pine and fir, rich in the valuable products of resin, turpentine, tar, pitch, and lampblack. Turpentine is the juice of the living tree; resin is a solid residue obtained from the turpentine; spirit of turpentine is the clear liquid which results when the resin is removed from turpentine; tar is the juice of the dead tree extracted by heat in pits; and lampblack is produced by this process of burning to extract the tar. Tar is also obtained by distillation in close vessels. Pitch is tar boiled until all the volatile matters are driven off. It may be seen, therefore, how important an industry goes on in those pine forests, a working party in one of which is represented in our illustration.

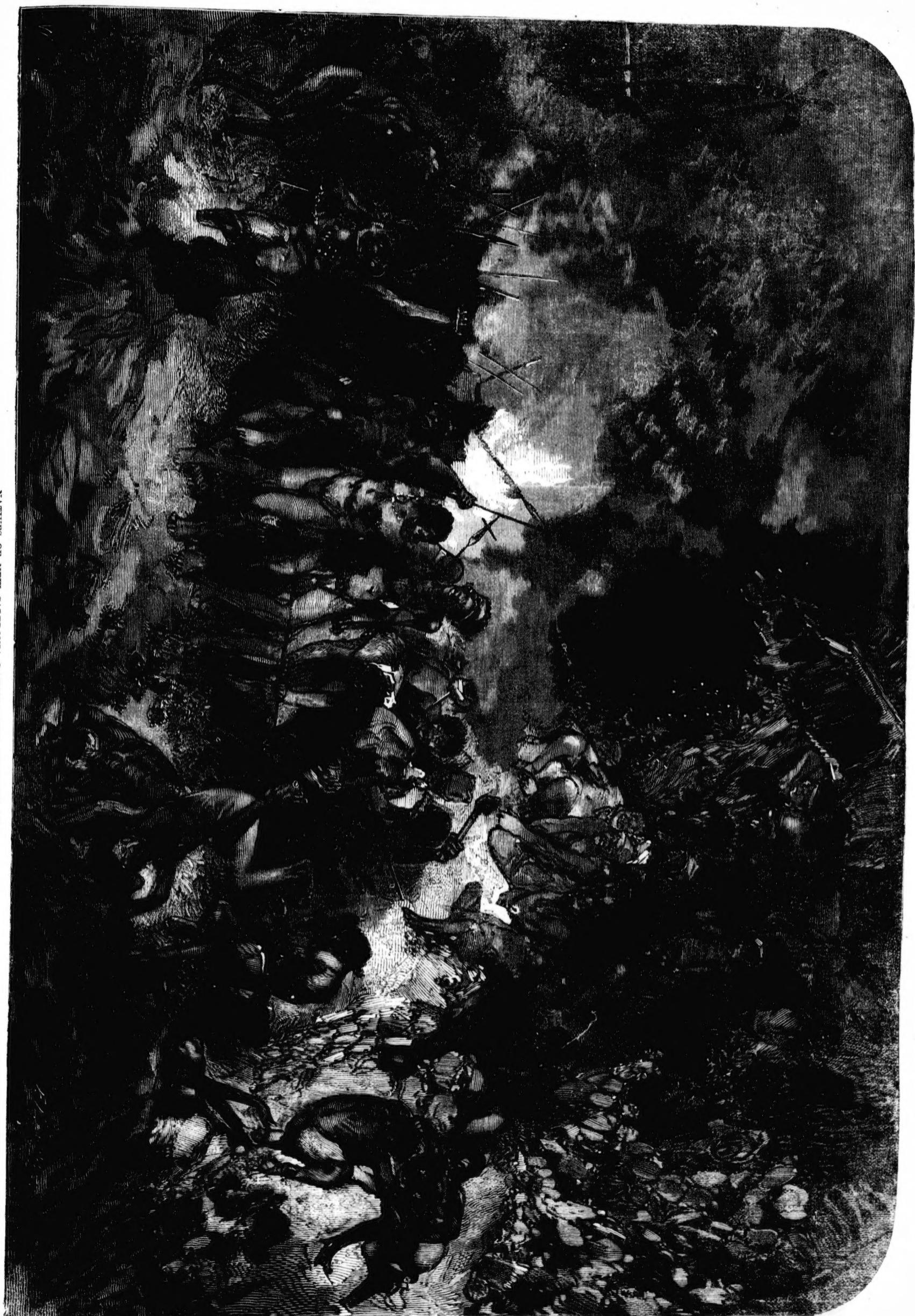
STATUE OF THE LATE LORD DERBY.—Nearly three years ago, it may be remembered, a marble statue of Lord Derby, executed by Mr. Theed, was set up in St. George's Hall, Liverpool. Its fidelity to the original was instantly recognised, and the Junior Carlton Club, acting upon the suggestion of Colonel Talbot, son-in-law of the statesman, gave the sculptor an order for a replica. After the lapse of two years the task is now nearly completed. The statue stands 7 ft. high, is of Carrara marble, and represents Lord Derby in the robes of the Garter. The attitude is that of an orator addressing himself to an assembly; one leg is placed firmly in advance of the other, and the left hand holds a scroll. In his treatment of the face Mr. Theed has had the advantage of possessing a bust, for which Lord Derby sat to him, and which, we believe, is the only one taken from life that exists. The sculptor has not failed to impress on his work the energy, the decision, the combative, the loftiness which belonged to the character of the late Earl. By the opening of Parliament, it is hoped, the statue will occupy its destined position in the hall of the Junior Carlton Club. The pedestal is formed out of a block of Sicilian marble, and is of ordinary size.

PASTORAL FROM CARDINAL CULLEN ON EDUCATION.—Cardinal Cullen has issued a pastoral address to the clergy on the feast of St. Bridget, in which he says:—"The Dissenters and Nonconformists in England, and Presbyterians and votaries of ascendancy in Ireland, pretend to banish religion from public schools, and to leave our youth exposed to the infection of infidelity, atheism, or indifference to all religion. They tell us they give us State education, compulsory education, and schools free from every vestige of Catholic doctrine and discipline. It is our duty to resist these pretensions, and to insist on our right to a primary, intermediate, and University Catholic education for Catholic children. We have active, persevering, and unscrupulous enemies to contend with. They have inscribed education without religion on their banners; they are enemies of the Cross and of the Gospel; they wish to reduce the children who frequent the public schools to the condition of Pagans and infidels; to leave them without faith to support them in their pilgrimage here below, and without hope of any happiness in the world to come. Should we not make every effort to prevent such evils? Should we not make any sacrifice to preserve our faithful island of saints from being thus degraded and contaminated?"

THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE AND THE NORTH NOTT'S ELECTION.—The *Sheffield Telegraph* has been requested by a gentleman in close communication with His Grace the Duke of Newcastle to publish the following remarkable communication:—"His Grace the Duke of Newcastle desires it to be known that he wishes his tenantry to vote exactly as they please; but that, as far from their voting for Mr. Monckton being displeasing to him, as against Mr. Laycock, he is very strongly in Mr. Monckton's favour himself. He is very glad so many influential people are on Mr. Monckton's side; and his Grace hopes and expects to see him returned by a large majority. His Grace further declares that his own views are unchanged, more especially in Church matters—that he leans to the Conservative side, not as represented by Mr. Disraeli, but by Palmerston or old (though he called himself Liberal) and the present Lord Derby. Having been opposed to the disestablishment of the Irish Church, principally because he regarded it as a stepping-stone to the English, he naturally would resist the separation of Church and State, and regard with horror any movement having for its object 'education without religion.' The Duke does not wonder at so many moderate Liberals distrusting Mr. Gladstone, for what confidence could they have in a man of his position, who, when anything that was not legal and constitutional ought to have been rebuked, talks of thinking three times before he would abolish the House of Lords, and dailies with the Dilkeites?"



OBTAINING RESIN IN A VOIGHTLAND FINE FOREST.



NATIVES OF NEW CALEDONIA DANCING THE "PILOU-PILOU."

A NATIVE DANCE IN NEW CALEDONIA.

We have already given detailed accounts in these columns of the physical and social aspect of the French settlement of New Caledonia, and therefore, though we publish an Engraving from a sketch illustrating M. Garnier's interesting book, "A l'Océanie," we need not enter very fully into a description of native habits and customs. The "Pilou-Pilou," as this wild fandango is called, differs little from the grotesque high jinks of other savage tribes. It is less complicated and artistic than the "corrobbery" of the Australian native; less warlike, vengeful, and terrible than the war-dance of the Red Skin; but it has its strange terror, nevertheless. A tumultuous jumble of sounds, the low rumbling of bark drums struck by bamboos, the shouts and cries of the dancers, who shriek or ejaculate guttural notes, the crooning songs of the chorus, the yells of the warriors, make a terrible din when heard in the dead of night as a prelude to the appearance of a moving mass of naked dusky figures, only just lighted by the lurid glare of a dozen torches as they come through the deep woods—torches carried by hideous old women, who look like harpies as they throw their arms wildly about and mop and mow in answer to the general excitement. The warriors—their dark bodies tattooed, their faces made horrible with pigments—whirl round, brandishing their axes and other weapons; the dance becomes a wild, tumultuous frenzy, when suddenly, at a signal, every voice is hushed—not a sound is heard, not a cry; and the strange fandango goes on in silence. It is like a dance of shadows—hundreds of flitting, ghostly forms moving in strange, fantastic evolutions, maintained with surprising energy. This is the most remarkable part of the "Pilou," which, by-the-by, lasts for two or three days, during which the performers take little food—fasting many hours at a time even during this violent exercise. The most horrible part of the whole affair is, however, that the dance is a cannibal ceremony, and that, when it has wrought the savage wretches to the requisite pitch of frenzy, they fall upon the miserable prisoners who have been taken alive in battle and devour them then and there, thus concluding their demoniac orgie with a banquet.

MR. CHILDERS ON ADMIRALTY REFORM.

MR. CHILDERS, who was examined before the Megara Commission last Saturday, stated that when he came into office, in December, 1868, the Megara was first on the list of troop-ships. In March or April, 1870, he answered a question in the House of Commons as to the description of coal used on board; and in August, 1870, he concurred with Sir Sidney Dacres in the propriety of ordering her to be paid off. Whether she would at some future period be again used was a question that was not asked. She was for a time employed as a store-ship, and he (Mr. Childers) concluded from a paper submitted to him that she was fit to do the work of a store-ship. He was not consulted with regard to the sending of the vessel to Australia, having been taken ill about that time. Mr. Childers then explained at great length the changes in the Admiralty administration which he had introduced on becoming the head of that department. He found that the want of system and the want of responsibility was very great. There was also a great want of responsibility at the dockyards. There was no register of papers kept, and the system of registration was not good. There was also a very cumbersome system of copying, and there seemed to him to be a great absence of foresight in regulating the business of the dockyards. Public opinion, whenever expressed—and it was expressed at the time very freely—pointed to the substitution of a departmental system, with individual responsibility, for the system of a board, which then existed, constituted as it was. He endeavoured, therefore, to carry out to the best of his ability that entire system of reform in the Admiralty which during the time he was out of office he took every means of advocating and pushing forward. The change establishing departmental action with the individual responsibility of the chief was immediate. From the very first day of the new arrangement the formal and regular meetings and discussions of the board came to an end, and a new system of receiving and dealing with letters and reports came into force. The changes (Mr. Childers believed) soon effected a marked improvement in the department. "I always (he said) thought it a very strange and unaccountable proceeding that during six months of the year, when Parliamentary men had hardly at their disposal two or three hours a day to devote to their own business, my Lords should be obliged to assemble around a table at certain times and discuss grave questions which had all been settled and decided upon beforehand. The new system is, I think, a great improvement upon what I have been describing. Under the present system the records of the whole of the important business of every day connected with all the departments were collected every evening and placed in the hands of the printer, and the next morning, when the heads of the several departments came to their work, they found on their table voluminous printed minutes, giving them full particulars of what had been done the day before. They were supposed to run their eye through those minutes. If a question arose to their mind on which they required more information they could send for the necessary papers at once, and if they were personally concerned in any matter they would do so. This, if carried out properly, I believe to be a thorough safeguard against any negligence, and would carry out satisfactorily the objects desired by many of the witnesses who have preceded me. I may be asked why I did not go further and abolish the board altogether. Well, my reply to this is that, as long as unnecessary loss of time and unnecessary discussion were avoided, I did not see that I should be justified in proposing the abolition of such an old-standing body as the Board of Admiralty. Besides, I found a somewhat similar board in existence in the Treasury working fairly enough."

Referring to Mr. Reed's statement, that the size of the ships had been sacrificed on the score of economy, Mr. Childers said he believed, if anything, he erred the other way. When there was a discussion as to whether there should be ships built of 2000 tons, 3000 tons, or 4000 tons, he decided on the 3000 tons and the 4000 tons, to the entire exclusion of the 2000-ton vessels. Mr. Childers said he had hoped that by the autumn of 1870 a complete review would have been continuously carried on, and that the whole department would begin to assume a satisfactory position. But his illness intercepted all the plans so far as he was individually concerned. In reply to a question, whether there was any foundation for the allegation that the efficiency of any vessel in the service was sacrificed to economy, Mr. Childers replied, "I can say emphatically that there is not. The only way I can account for the Megara being placed in the first-class reserve is that application was made about this time for the use of a vessel to enable certain astronomers to see an eclipse which was to be observed in Spain. The Megara may have been through this coincidence placed in the first-class reserve, and the cause of it may have escaped Captain Luard's notice."

THE LIVINGSTONE EXPEDITION.—A public meeting was, on Tuesday, convened at the Egyptian Hall of the Mansion House, with a view to co-operate with the Royal Geographical Society in fitting out the expedition which is to be dispatched in search of Dr. Livingstone. The Lord Mayor presided, and amongst the other speakers were Sir H. Rawlinson, Colonel Gran (the African traveller), Sir Bartle Frere, and Lieutenant Llewellyn Dawson. The subscriptions now amount to about £3000.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.—The Vice-Consul of her Britannic Majesty at the city of Bolívar, South America, writes to the Consul-General at Caracas:—"An old woman named Marquito Ophile has discovered an efficacious remedy for the yellow fever and black vomit, which has completely cured several persons, after the medical men had declared they could only live a few hours. This remedy is the juice of the leaves of the vervain plant, which is obtained by bruising, and is taken in small doses three times a day. Injections of the same juice are also administered every two hours, until the intestines are completely relieved of their contents. All the medical men here have adopted the use of the remedy, and consequently very few, if any, persons now die of those terrible diseases referred to. The leaves of the female plant only are used."

MR. VERNON HARcourt ON INVASION PANICS.

MR. VERNON HARcourt, M.P., in a letter to the *Times* on "Invasion Panics," and the allegations that the British fleet under Nelson was "decoyed" to the West Indies in 1805, and that a like trick might be played again, and so make an invasion of England possible, says:—

"The 'decoying-away' theory is, perhaps, the first favourite of the panic-mongers. Now this panic, if it be well founded, is of all others the most disheartening, because if it be true that the British fleet may be and probably will be 'decoyed away' somewhere just when it is wanted, it is clear we might just as well be without a British fleet at all; for 'de non apparentibus et non existentibus eadem est ratio.' And the nine or ten millions a year which we spend on the Navy might just as well be spared. But is it the fact that the British fleet ever was 'decoyed away,' so as to leave our shores for one instant without the protection of a force infinitely greater than any which could possibly be brought against it? Your correspondent may have profoundly studied the art of war, but his letter shows very small acquaintance with the naval events of 1805. When he says that 'our fleet was decoyed away, though commanded by Nelson,' he falls into just one of those superficial errors which come from the reading of inaccurate books like Alison's. Does he mean that the whole of the British fleet, or any considerable part or portion whatever of it which was charged with the defence of our shores, was ever 'decoyed away' for an instant? In 1805 the serious danger of an invasion had almost ceased to be believed in by some of the best informed of our public men. There are some remarkable letters of Lord Grenville, in which that grave and certainly not unwarlike statesman laughs at the idea of Mr. Pitt still fussing about the volunteers as if he really anticipated a descent. Nelson was no longer urgently wanted in the Channel. The real anxiety at that time was about Egypt, Sicily, and the Mediterranean. Villeneuve was in Toulon, and Nelson was blockading him, as was his wont, at a distance; for that great seaman's idea of a blockade was to tempt his enemy out and fight him. Villeneuve left Toulon on March 30, 1805, with eleven sail of the line. He picked up Gravina at Cadiz with seven more vessels before Nelson could catch him, and he sailed to the West Indies with a large body of troops on board for the purpose of capturing the British possessions there. So far was this movement from being intended to 'decoy' Nelson to the West Indies, that Napoleon devoutly hoped and believed he was going to stay in Europe, in which case he intended the Brest fleet to have joined Villeneuve in the West Indies. Nelson did just what he was instructed to do, just what he intended always to do, and just what he would equally have done if the whole plan of Napoleon had lain open before him. He stuck as close as he could to Villeneuve, and followed him wherever he went with the eager desire to bring him to action at the earliest moment. To say that Nelson was 'decoyed' by Villeneuve to the West Indies is about as accurate a form of expression as it would be to say that the Crown Prince was 'decoyed' by MacMahon to Woerth, or that Prince Frederick was 'decoyed' by Bazaine at Metz. When Nelson went to the West Indies he did not weaken the British naval force destined for the defence of the Channel by a single ship or a single gun. Besides the great miscellaneous force in the Channel specially watching the flotilla of Boulogne, there was the Channel Fleet off Brest, of eighteen or twenty ships of the line, and the fleet which was afterwards combined under Sir R. Calder, of sixteen sail of the line, in the Bay of Biscay, besides numerous other small squadrons blockading the various ports of France and of Spain. Nelson took with him eleven sail of the line, and must have left at least fifty British sail of the line in European waters. And this is what is called 'decoying' the British fleet. Villeneuve weakened the French force in Europe by eighteen sail of the line. Nelson, in his chase, reduced the English force by eleven sail of the line. Was that an operation which left England defenceless? In fact, when Nelson was in the West Indies with Villeneuve, the relative force of the English navy was considerably raised. Nelson was terribly disappointed that the false information which he received from General Brereton prevented his fighting the battle of Trafalgar in the West Indies, because he hoped to have covered himself with glory by beating the combined fleets with a force hardly half their own. As soon as he discovered that they were on their way back to Europe he sent the requisite information to England and to the squadrons in the Bay of Biscay. He foresaw Villeneuve was bound either to Ferrol, to pick up the ships blockaded there, or to Cadiz, on his way back to the Mediterranean. If Nelson had thought the Channel in danger he would at once have steered for Ushant. But he knew very well that the Bay of Biscay and the Channel were amply covered by the two fleets of Admiral Cornwallis, of eighteen ships, and of Sir R. Calder, of sixteen ships of the line, each half as big again as his own; and he steered straight for Gibraltar to overtake or to intercept the combined fleets in case they were bound for the Mediterranean, to protect which was his original charge. Villeneuve was, in fact, bound for Ferrol. Before he got there he was met by Sir R. Calder off Cape Finisterre, just where he was expected. If, instead of making Ferrol, he had tried at Brest, he would have encountered a still more crushing defeat from the Channel Fleet under Admiral Cornwallis, with a force equal to his own. The situation of Villeneuve was impossible, for the moment he reached the West Indies he had Nelson behind him, and on his return to Europe he had two equal or superior fleets in front of him. His luck consisted in his being able to get into port at all, and it was for letting him do so that Sir R. Calder was tried. Of course, if we are to assume (as Napoleon did, but as his Minister of Marine did not) that Villeneuve could go at his leisure in the presence of two great British fleets and pick up all the blockaded squadrons from Gibraltar to Brest, the command of the Channel might have been an easy thing. But it was just because such a proceeding was impossible that the whole thing broke down. British sailors were not then, and I believe are not now, made of the stuff to permit themselves to be thus outwitted. I have gone into this sketch of what really happened in 1805 (the details of which your readers may verify for themselves from any of the common books) in order to show what an entire mistake it is to suppose that the English shores were denuded or imperilled by the 'decoying away' of Nelson to the West Indies. Nelson was not in charge of the Channel, but of the Mediterranean. He followed the French Mediterranean fleet wherever it went, and he brought it back to Europe. In fact, he arrived at Gibraltar the same day that Villeneuve was engaged by Sir R. Calder off Finisterre. When he left Europe he took with him eleven out of some sixty or seventy ships of the line which England then had in commission in those seas. So far, then, from the events of 1805 proving that the British fleet intended to cover our shores can be 'decoyed away,' they prove exactly the opposite. The Channel Fleet and the fleet which covered the Channel Fleet were all the time just where they ought to have been, and where, under similar circumstances, they always would be—one off Ushant and the other off Finisterre. They amounted together to thirty-four sail of the line, a force superior by one third to that which fought at Trafalgar, and they had behind them a whole armament in the Channel itself."

"Napoleon was much too great a soldier to believe in the 'slipping over' theory of the alarmists. He had his ships and transports all ready; he could embark his men in a few hours; and he could, no doubt, as he calculated, with a fair wind cross in a single tide of six hours with 150,000 men. But he knew that was no use. What was indispensable to him was the undisputed command of the Channel, not for a single tide, nor even for a fortnight (as he said at the time), but for two months, as he afterwards confessed at St. Helena. And that was what, with all his 'decoying,' he had never had a chance of accomplishing, nor will it ever be accomplished, except by a vast and overwhelming superiority of naval power."

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1872.

BEGINNING AGAIN.

THERE are many reasons why, in a country like England, the national character being what it is, a man's past need seldom be fatal to him. It is one of the worst evils of our present method of treating certain classes of criminals that the door is too nearly shut in the face of some of them, after a certain kind and degree of legal "ban," so to speak, has been placed against their names; but this question will not be allowed to drop—we mean, taking it as a matter of jurisprudence and governmental policy; while, as a question of voluntary *social* policy, it may be said never to have been entirely asleep in England for a century or two, and it has been particularly well kept alive since the time of the humane and far-seeing Paley—of all Churchmen the least like a Churchman, of all thinkers one of the most practical. It was not much to lose a bishopric, but, such as the loss was, Paley incurred it, as we all know, by his liberality of opinion, and partly by that bold illustration of his about the flock of pigeons falling upon the single pigeon robber and pecking him to death. "What!" cried George III., when the doctor's name was mentioned as that of a man worthy of a mitre—"What! Pigeon Paley? No, no!"

This, however, is rather wide of the topic which we have in our mind. In general society and in public life it is astonishing how much is condoned or forgotten in the conduct of men and women who have, after all, a good reason of being—nay, sometimes in the case of those who have not. The past failure, the past fault—nay, the past outrage, soon slips out of memory, for we all have our own affairs to attend to; and, by-and-by, the man who was yesterday hissed, like a bad play in the days of Goldsmith, is taken into favour again as if nothing had happened. Most people have seen, with a smile of pleasure, that Sir Charles Dilke, M.P., has just got married; and, as it is a public event, it is not unlikely that thousands of Englishmen have said to themselves or to their wives over the breakfast-table:—"Come! Dilke has gone and got married. One person at least has been on his side, and will now be still more so. Glad he has had that comfort—in fact, he won't care about our opinion of him now! At all events, he has had, on his own side, to undergo harsh and unfair treatment; so let us forget that rash blunder about the Queen's income tax, and begin over again with an able and courageous man." There is reason in this, whether Briggs or Jones may say it, or may not say it. Moral courage is so rare a quality that we need not too harshly rebuke its excesses. And, if there is any such thing as a school of moderation in this world, it is that which is kept by a man's own wife! Mr. Disraeli long ago made public his opinion of its value; and much may be forgiven to a man who has put himself under the discipline of that most ancient and honourable of academic institutions.

Mr. Bruce, the Home Secretary, again, is a gentleman who has been over-abused—even for a Home Secretary, which is saying a good deal. We have deeply regretted to notice that some of our contemporaries, from whom better things might have been expected, have severely condemned his course of action in the case of the Rev. J. S. Watson and that of Christiana Edmunds. But the conscientious judgment of the country at large will support him; and the Judges who tried the cases, along with, we believe, the Lord Chief Justice, are at his back. We never, as our readers know, felt the smallest hesitation in treating both Mr. Watson and Miss Edmunds as insane persons; and we trust that the interference of Mr. Bruce on their behalf, as well as that of Mr. Justice Byles and Mr. Baron Martin, will be remembered to their honour. With the Home Secretary as a legislator let us begin again, and see that he has a fair field in whatever he attempts in the Session which is at the doors.

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEWS.

The volunteers are in danger of losing their annual Easter Monday "outing." Professional critics have condemned the volunteer gatherings at Easter as useless, and even to some extent ridiculous. The men are not sufficiently drilled to act in masses; many of the officers are deficient in knowledge of their duties; and the consequence is that, according to professional judgment, the reviews are failures. Possibly; but that does not prove that they ought to be abandoned. On the contrary, it only shows that there should be more of them, if possible, so that both officers and men might become better acquainted with their work. Several leading officers of volunteers, however, think differently; they are frightened by professional criticism, and are inclined to give up the Easter review. Not so Lord Elcho; his soul is still in arms, and eager for Brighton Downs. And we confess that we sympathise in this matter with Lord Elcho. The reviews are liked by the volunteers, and they draw recruits to the corps: so far, their utility cannot be disputed.

But they serve other purposes. Neither officers nor men can go through one of these field-days without learning something, if it be only to know their deficiencies; and even professionals are not without need of that teaching, as the blunders of the autumn manoeuvres showed only too plainly. Then, the reviews afford occasions for physical exercise, and tend to promote manly hardihood of character; and these things are good too. Finally, the reviews provide a pleasant holiday for men most of whom have too few holidays, and encourage them to devote such an opportunity to useful and beneficial purposes; and that is very good. So we hope the reviews will be continued, professional critics notwithstanding; and that the volunteers will have their outing this year at Brighton, as usual.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Prince Leopold and Princess Beatrice, attended by their suite, is expected to return to Windsor about Feb. 20, being somewhat later than was at first anticipated.

THE KING OF ITALY has conferred the decoration of Chevalier of the Order of St. Maurice et Lazare upon Mr. Edward Whymper in recognition of the value of his recently-published work upon the Alps.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL, Secretary for India, has offered the post of Lieutenant-Governor of Madras to the Right Hon. the Earl of Morley.

MR. DENISON, on retiring from the Speakership, will be raised to the Peerage, with the title of Viscount Ossington, of Ossington, in the county of Notts.

THE ADDRESS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS will be moved by the Hon. H. Strutt (East Derbyshire) and seconded by Mr. J. Colman (Norwich). The Earl of Delaware will move, and Viscount Powerscourt will second, the Address in the House of Lords.

THE RIGHT HON. B. DISRAELI has addressed the following letter to the Conservative members of the House of Commons:—"Sir,—Permit me to remind you that Parliament will reassemble on Tuesday, Feb. 6, when important business, including the election of a Speaker, will probably engage its attention. I trust, therefore, that you may find it convenient to be in your place on that day."

SIR R. P. COLLIER was, on Saturday evening last, entertained at a banquet by a number of his former colleagues at the Bar. The chair was occupied by the Attorney-General, and many eminent Queen's Counsel, of both sides in politics, were present.

MR. FALLES, Q.C., has been appointed Solicitor-General for Ireland. He is in the front rank of his profession, an accomplished and able lawyer, and, although his religion and political convictions strongly accord with those of Cardinal Cullen, he enjoys the esteem and confidence of all parties.

LORD DERBY presided, on Wednesday evening, at a discussion at the Society of Arts, which was initiated by a paper on "Individual Providence for Old Age as a National Question," from the pen of Mr. G. C. Bartley.

GENERAL CHESNEY, the well-known Oriental traveller, and Commander of the Ephraim expedition in 1835-6, died on Tuesday, at his residence near Kilkenny, in the county of Down.

THE NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE COUNTY OF KERRY is fixed for Tuesday next, and the polling for Friday, the 9th inst.

THE CHILIAN CITY OF ORAN has just been destroyed by an earthquake. The city was estimated to contain 8000 inhabitants, and was well constructed.

THE BISHOP OF BATH AND WELLS has inhibited Archdeacon Denison from continuing certain ceremonial observances in East Brent Church, and has signified his intention of revoking the licenses of his two assistant curates. The Archdeacon has replied that the inhibition has not been complied with, nor will it be so long as he remains Vicar of East Brent.

THE FAMILY OF THE LATE FIELD MARSHAL SIR JOHN BURGOYNE have intrusted to Mr. George Bentley for publication the complete journals kept by Sir John during the campaigns of 1809-10, which have been discovered among his papers; and also his private correspondence during the Crimean War.

THE NOMINATION FOR GALWAY is fixed for this day (Saturday), and the polling for Tuesday next, the same days as those selected for the northern division of the West Riding of Yorkshire.

THE INQUIRY into the charges against the Vicar of Leamington, under commission from the Bishop of Worcester, is to be resumed on Monday.

MAZZINI, in a letter to a friend, says that he has never attacked Garibaldi, and is quite ready to come to terms with him. But no agreement can be come to between them, he declares, unless it is based on the Republican programme. It is for Garibaldi to speak out, Mazzini adds, and declare his views.

THE CITY OF SCHAMACHI, in the Caucasus, was, on Sunday, totally destroyed by a succession of earthquakes. Few houses remain standing, and many lives have been lost.

MR. JARVIS, who was fined £5 by the Ilford magistrates, on the prosecution of the Board of Inland Revenue, for using a borrowed envelope on which there was a coat of arms, has, after some correspondence with the board, had the whole of the fine remitted.

THE TREASURY RECEIPTS from April 1 to the 27th ult. amounted to £55,359,533—an increase of £3,100,000 upon the sum in the corresponding period of last year. The expenditure has been £60,446,630. On Saturday last the balance in the Bank of England was £989,438.

A MEETING OF THE PARIS JOCKEY CLUB was held on Monday, when a proposition, signed by fifty-three members, was submitted, to exclude all Germans from the club. The motion was rejected by a resolution to pass to the order of the day.

AN ENGLISH SCHOONER, according to a New York telegram, has been captured by a Spanish gun-boat for landing contraband of war in Cuba. According to a Madrid telegram, the Spanish Government intend to send 500 men to the island.

PROFESSOR AGASSIZ, who is at present on a voyage of discovery, gives an account of a fish that builds a nest in the drifting seaweed of the Gulf stream, and has a fin like a hand, and walks rather than swims.

MR. RICHARD LEWIS, of the Western Circuit, the secretary of the National Life-Boat Institution, has just been appointed honorary member of the Société Royale et Centrale des Sauveteurs de Belgique, of which His Majesty the King of the Belgians is the active President. This mark of honour is accompanied by a diploma of membership, with the ribbon and gold medal, in token of the high respect and esteem entertained for Mr. Lewis in Belgium.

VICE-CHANCELLOR BACON, on Wednesday, decided on an application made on behalf of Mr. Gullick, an artist, and the owner of a picture-gallery in Old Bond-street, complaining of a veterinary surgeon named Tremlett, who carried on business in rooms underneath the gallery. The plaintiff alleged that Tremlett's forge was a nuisance, and prayed for an injunction to restrain it. His Honour granted the application.

A YOUTH NAMED STACEY, thirteen years of age, in the employ of a farmer at Langtree, Devon, has committed suicide by hanging himself. It appears that he told a fellow-labourer that he was going to a farm occupied by his master's brother, adding that he would not be sent there another night, for he would not give them the chance.

A DEPUTATION, representing various political associations, attended at the Home Office, last Saturday, to point out the defects in the working of the lodger franchise, and the necessity for a more perfect system of registration. In the temporary absence of Mr. Bruce, the deputation was received by Mr. Winterbotham, M.P., the Parliamentary Under-Secretary.

MR. ALLEN F. GARDNER, a Lieutenant on board the St. Vincent, was convicted by court-martial, held at Portsmouth, on Tuesday, of the crime of drunkenness. He was sentenced to lose seniority as Lieutenant, to be severely reprimanded, and to be dismissed his ship.

THE NUMBER OF VESSELS which arrived at the port of New York in 1871 was 5806, of which 7 were ships of war, 830 steamers, 532 full-rigged ships, 144 barges, 1458 brigs, and 1335 schooners. Of these 5806 vessels 2205 were American, 2357 British, 339 North German, 242 Norwegian, 136 Italian, 54 French, &c. The British arrivals thus exceeded the American.

A NEW EDITION of Bret Harte's "Luck of Roaring Camp, and other Tales" will shortly be issued by Messrs. Routledge and Sons, with two additional papers, not hitherto published in England, and with an introduction and "Gossiping Glossary" by Tom Hood.

MR. JAMES STANSFIELD, father of the President of the Local Government Board, has just died, at Halifax, in his eightieth year. The deceased gentleman, who was until recently Judge of the Halifax, Huddersfield, Dewsbury, and Holmfirth County Courts, took an active part in the promotion and direction of the Mechanics' Institute in the first-named town, of which he was president for many years.

THE LOUNGER.

THE Dissenters at the Manchester meeting have boldly taken new ground—adopted a fresh platform. Secular education, pure and simple, is to be their war-cry. Well, this is very good, if they really mean what they say. But do they? I suspect they do not. Do they mean to exclude the Bible from rate-supported schools? If they do not, the education will not be purely secular nor undenominational, inasmuch as in these realms there is a very large number of people who object to the reading of the Bible in schools—to wit, the Roman Catholics and the Jews, besides a very believe in the infallibility of the Bible; and all these will have the right to say, "You call your schools undenominational; but they are not; they are denominational." This is how the matter will stand if the Dissenters at Manchester mean to allow the Bible to be read in rate-supported schools. But if they mean to exclude the Bible, as some say they do, then this question arises—to wit, will the proposal to exclude the Bible be supported unanimously by the Dissenters? I answer, certainly not. Mr. E. Baines, Mr. Charles Reed, and others, during the last Session, denounced the proposal; and I am quite sure that in small towns and rural villages, where old-fashioned Puritan Dissent is still very strong, the proposal will be looked upon with something like horror, as a heinous sin, likely to provoke the wrath of God against the nation. The Dissenters at the Manchester meeting are, therefore, between two stools—or, as the logicians say, in a dilemma.

For upwards of forty years I have more or less actively advocated the abolition of capital punishment; and at no time during that long period did I doubt that the time would come when the gallows would be effaced from the land. How could I doubt, when the progress to this consummation, though slow, was manifest? After I had arrived at man's estate I saw a man hanged for horse-stealing. Sheep-stealers were also hanged at that time; so were burglars, forgers, highway robbers, men guilty of arson, and poachers who shot at and wounded gamekeepers, even but slightly. Well, gradually we succeeded in getting all these offences out of the category of capital crimes, until at last there was only the crime of murder left; and there we paused. "No; we must not abolish hanging for murder. It is God's eternal, inexorable decree that the murderer shall die; and shall not the God of all the earth do right?" As you imagine, we had hard work to dislodge our opponents from behind such an intrenchment. I remember, though, that at a public meeting I rather staggered a fierce advocate of hanging for murder by reminding him that death for murder could not be God's eternal, inexorable law, as God spared the first murderer, and set a mark upon him that no man might kill him. My opponent was posed, but not convinced; at least he did not confess that he was. He was, though, clearly beaten off the ground which he had taken. At this time the fight was stubborn, and we seemed to make little progress; but we had a powerful ally not then plainly discernible—to wit, the Spirit of the Age. Gradually this spirit was changing the philosophy of punishment. The old theory was that the Judge was the vicegerent of God, and held the Sword of Justice, and that in inflicting punishment for crime he was executing Divine vengeance. But this theory had to give way, and gradually a new philosophy prevailed—viz., that the object of punishment was simply to prevent crime, and then our progress was much more rapid, and we saw before us certain success. Well, now where do we stand? Hangings are getting to be every year less frequent. The returns do not show this, but then we must remember the increase of population. But, to end this history, the sparing of the lives of the Rev. Mr. Watson and Miss Edmunds has, I think, brought us nearer, as by a leap, to our goal; and though I am getting old, it is not improbable I may yet see the fall of the gallows.

The Honourable Henry Strutt, the member for East Derbyshire, will move the Address in the House of Commons; Mr. Colman, the member for Norwich, will second it. Mr. Strutt is the eldest son of Lord Belper, who was called to the Upper House in 1856, when Lord Palmerston was Prime Minister. Mr. Colman is, as all the world knows, for every available wall proclaims the fact, a manufacturer of mustard and corn-flour. But, what is more to the purpose here, he is a Dissenter of the Miall type; and politicians argue from his selection to move the Address that the Prime Minister means to make some concessions to the recalcitrant Dissenters. This inference, to say the least, is plausible; may I, must think that, unless Mr. Gladstone does really mean to concede something, he would not put up so zealous an ally of Mr. Miall to second the Address. Usually, as we all know, the mover and seconder of the Address confine themselves in their speeches to the measures mentioned in the Queen's Speech. But they are not obliged to do this; and some movers and seconders have taken a wider range. Mr. Glynn, when, at the request of the Prime Minister, he looked over the list of his supporters for a seconder, no doubt thought of this; and, unless the Government have decided to make concessions, he would have said, when he came to Mr. Colman's name, "No; he won't do, for he's a strong Miallite, who is, for the time, in open rebellion." I really must think that this selection of Mr. Colman means concession. And, now I am upon the subject, what do the Dissenters mean by the threat to withdraw their support from the Government? Will they, if themselves defeated by the aid of the Conservatives, take the first opportunity to help the Conservatives to defeat the Government? Thus, if some Conservative were to move a vote of want of confidence in the Government, would Mr. Miall support the vote? I put this question to a Dissenter, and the answer was, "Certainly." To which I replied, "Well, if he were to do this, I do not believe that ten members would follow him." But I do not believe that he would take this extreme course. He would, upon reflection, come to Lord Pelham's conclusion, to wit:—"This is not the best Government we might get, nor the best Government we may have; but it is, with all its faults, the best Government that we have ever had."

The Times has during the past week published a series of articles upon the American claim presented to the Geneva arbitrators, and as I read these articles, especially that of Wednesday, I was forced to suspect that they were inspired by the Foreign Office. The voice was Jacob's; but the hand, to my mind, was Esau's. But, if this be so, what is the intention of the articles? Can it be any other than to prepare the public mind for a possible, or even probable, unpleasant event—viz., the withdrawal of England from the treaty? I suspect Lord Granville sees that, if the American Government will not purge its case of all claims for compensation for infernal losses, we had better not go to arbitration, and that these articles in the Times were written to prepare our minds for this disappointment. But how, it may be asked, came we to get into this strange difficulty? My opinion on this subject I will now give. In my time I have often had, with a colleague, to arbitrate between two parties who agreed to refer their differences to arbitration; and in such cases, before we went to work, we had all the matters on which we were to arbitrate accurately defined and rigidly settled. But in this case this was not done. It ought to have been done by Lord De Grey and Ripon and Sir Stafford Northcote, but was not done—at least not rigidly, accurately, definitely; that is, stringently. This was a great blunder, and out of this blunder has come our present difficulties.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

There are no further signs of activity in the theatrical world. All the houses appear to be doing well, thanks to the absence of frost, the frequent wet weather, and the reaction after the anxiety caused by the illness of the Prince of Wales. But with the theatres in such a state of prosperity it becomes a difficult matter to recommend in all London many places of amusement where a thoroughly

refined and intellectual entertainment will be found. "Caste" is still flourishing and evergreen; and I am bound to say, after seeing this delightful play for at least the twelfth time a few evenings ago, I never met with a comedy which has worn so well. There is a talk about the exaggeration of acting, consequent upon everlasting repetition, but I really did not find much reason for the charge. The temptations to exaggerate are of course great; but, considering we have arrived at the hundred and twentieth night of the present revival, it is astonishing how fresh and unsoiled the acting is all round. Mr. Honey was always a little strong in parts; but I can forgive the over-energy for the sake of the imitable performance. Mr. Hare and Miss Wilton are still first-rate. Mr. Bancroft never played better than at this moment; and I can even forgive the dreadful yellow wig now worn by Miss Lydia Foote, since her Esther is still such a delicious performance. Why this yellow wig? In the old days Miss Foote looked the character to the life; but we cannot believe so sincerely in Nature's lady if we are constantly reminded of auricuous fluid and the very ballet which we ought to forget. Mr. Coghlan disappoints me much. Here is an admirable actor, with a character which ought to have suited him exactly; but he evidently does not like it, and he alone scamps from end to end. Noticing Mr. Coghlan's utter collapse with George d'Alroy, one admires more than ever (but, alas! only in recollection) the incomparable performance of Mr. F. Young. Reverting to the guidance of country cousins who want to see a play, "Caste" having been done, where shall I advise them to go? Well, there is "Pygmalion and Galatea," which should occupy their earliest attention—one of the most satisfactory comedies and most welcome theatrical treats which has been offered us for a very long time. Those who venture to the Haymarket once will be desirous of going again and again. Then there is Mr. Byron's comedy still running at the Globe; but after that one comes to a dead stop; for, of course, Mr. Henry Irving in "The Bells" is one of the first things every stranger in London will go and see. "London Assurance," at the Vaudeville, though it is not well played as a whole, will please some; but there my story ends. "The Last Days of Pompeii" is mere show and pantomime, as unadulterated as will be found in the orthodox pantomime-houses. But talking of show reminds me that it is whispered Mr. Boucicault's great Covent Garden scheme for the autumn is merely a production of "Le Roi Carotte," a spectacular extravaganza which in Paris is held to be worthless. Whether the London public will take to an extravaganza which is sneered at by the Parisians is another question; but the Covent Garden notion did not impress me with sanguine hope.

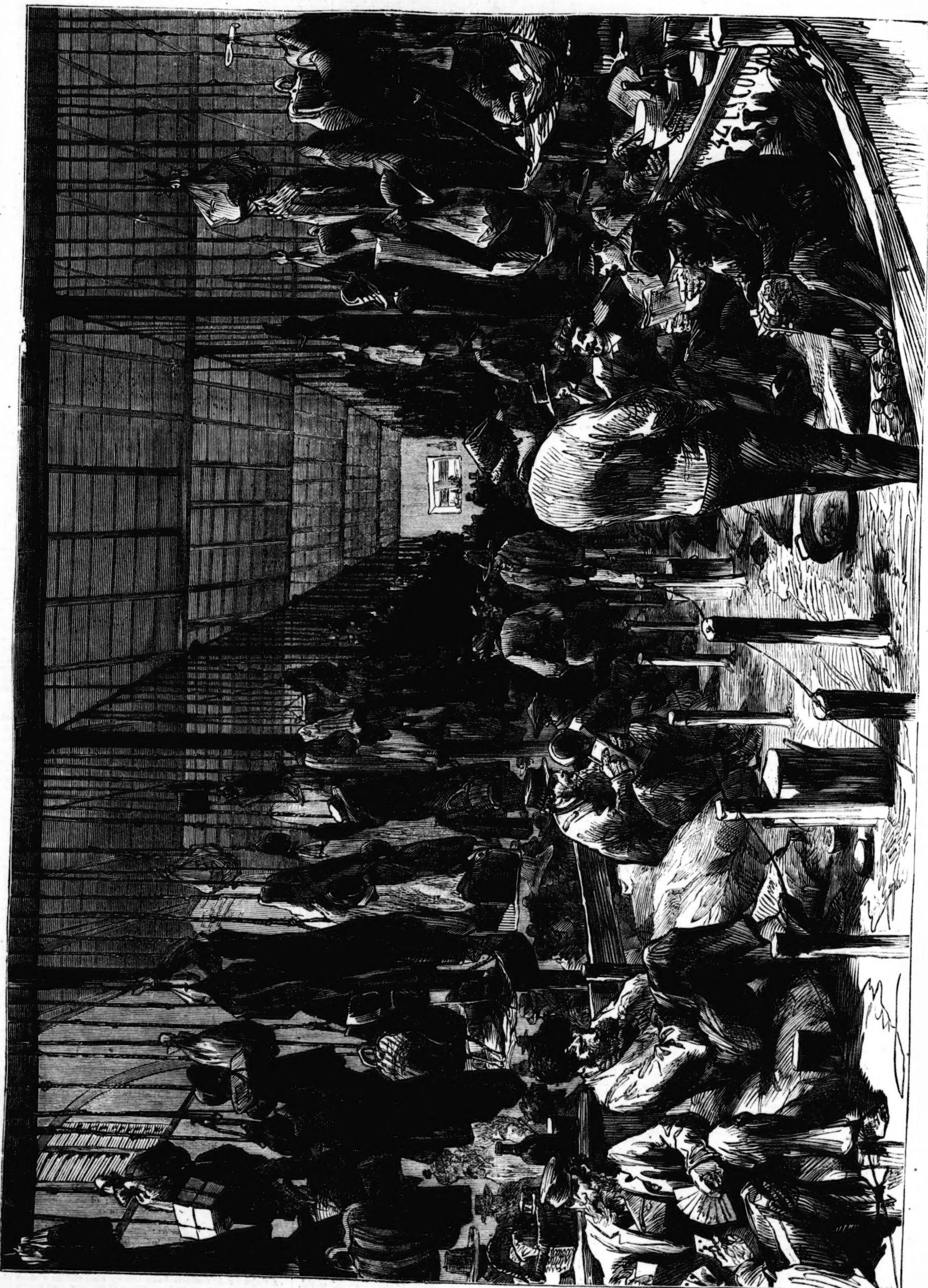
PREVENTION OF CHOLERA.

ON Monday a meeting of the representatives of the various riverside parishes and local boards, who some months ago had been appointed under an order of the Privy Council to take the necessary steps to prevent the introduction of cholera into the metropolis, and especially with this view to institute a strict inspection of all the vessels entering the river, was held at Guildhall. Mr. G. S. Pedler, the representative of the Corporation of London, occupied the chair. A report from the sub-committee stated that, up to the present time, there had been no appearance of cholera whatever, but that they had met from time to time in order that the committee might retain their power and be in a position to watch the course of the disease and to take immediate action in the event of its making an appearance among us. They had communicated with Mr. Harry Leach, the medical officer of the Seamen's Hospital, who expressed himself willing to act as their medical adviser, and laid before them suggestions and recommendations for carrying out a complete inspection and supervision of vessels in the river and docks. They had received most satisfactory accounts of Mr. Leach's capabilities, his great familiarity with shipping, and his extensive knowledge of the treatment and prevention of cholera, and they recommended that, immediately on the appearance of cholera in the Thames or the metropolis, he should be engaged as principal medical superintendent, at a monthly salary of 50 gs. They had received a letter from the Admiralty stating that her Majesty's ship Rhin, at Sheerness, would be at their disposal at any moment for the reception of cholera patients, on the same terms as she was lent to the Privy Council as a smallpox hospital-ship. The conditions of the loan were that the vessel was to be taken in exactly the same state as she was when required; that the Admiralty would be responsible for no expense incurred either in making her suitable for the purposes of the committee, in supplying any stores, in transporting her to her destination, in mooring her there, or in returning her; that she should be lent for six months only, except on a fresh application; and that she should be insured for £2500. They recommended the acceptance of the Rhin on those terms. They had from time to time received communications respecting the progress and extent of cholera on the Continent, and the secretary was now in communication with the authorities to arrange that official reports should be supplied them, supplemented by such additional information as the customs were able to afford. The conservators of the Thames had promised to provide moorings for any hospital ship that the committee might place in the river. Having regard to the new Sanitary Act to be brought forward during the coming Session, they suggested that a deputation should be appointed to wait upon the President of the Local Government Board, and to suggest that, to provide for the possible appearance of cholera in the metropolis, and with a view to effective and uniform sanitary inspection, supervision, and treatment in the port of London and in the docks, the duty of which inspection at present devolves on various riverside nuisance authorities within the port, it was expedient that some legislative enactment be passed to enable those authorities, in conjunction with representatives from the remainder of the metropolis, to take measures for the formation of a staff of medical officers and assistants necessary to carry out such purpose, and also with power to make a call on the several authorities for defraining the necessary cost of such inspection. Mr. Pedler, the chairman, said, happily for them, the duties of the committee had only been to watch and wait; but they had made such arrangements as would ensure the immediate isolation of any and every cholera patient arriving in the river and proper treatment by an experienced medical staff. The work of inspection would be vigorously continued both by the customs and the local authorities. He thought it most desirable that some arrangement should be made whereby the expense of a river cholera hospital should be borne by the metropolis. On the motion of Mr. Reed, the report was carried unanimously, and ordered to be printed and circulated. Dr. Dickson urged that the vessels should undergo a stringent examination while in the docks as well as at the entrance to the river. A deputation to Mr. Stansfeld was appointed, and the meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding and to the Corporation for allowing the committee to meet in the Guildhall.

COMMUNIST OFFICERS IN PRISON AT SATORY.

We have received one more sketch of the prisons to which the Communist captives have been consigned, and it may be interesting inasmuch as it represents the interior of a building at Satory—a kind of shed or warehouse—occupied solely by those who were officers under the Commune, and some of whom may possibly soon undergo the extreme penalty.

A GANG OF AUDACIOUS LADS tore up some palings a short distance from the Great Western Railway station at Newbury, last Sunday evening, and laid them across both lines of metal. Two trials were due in the course of the evening but before either arrived the police were made acquainted with the wicked act, and the palings were removed. Two of the gang have admitted their guilt, and the matter is in the hands of the Great Western Company's police.



COMMUNIST OFFICERS IN PRISON AT SATORY.

THE

LATE DUC DE PERSIGNY.

We published, a week or two ago, an obituary notice of the late Duc de Persigny; and it will, therefore, only be necessary to recall the leading facts of his life now.

Jean Gilbert Victor Félix was born at St. Germain-Lespinasse, in the Loire, on Jan. 11, 1808. After studying at the College of Limoges, he entered the army when seventeen years of age, and served in a cavalry regiment. He was, however, accused of insubordination by his superiors, and had to leave the service. In 1831 he went to Paris, and wrote for the press, and shortly afterwards adopted the name of Persigny and the title of Viscount, which had belonged to his family for a couple of centuries, though it had fallen into disuse. He was converted to Bonapartism by reading the "Mémorial de St. Hélène," and, strong in his new convictions (he had formerly Royalist views), he published, in 1834, a review called the *Occident Français*, of which, owing to his want of means, only the first number appeared. It introduced him, however, to the ex-King Joseph and to Louis Napoleon, who then resided at Arenenberg. From that time he attached himself to the fortunes of the Bonaparte family, and laboured for them with extraordinary ardour. He was the principal instigator of the Strasbourg plot, and made all the arrangements for carrying it out. He succeeded in escaping when it failed, and sought refuge in England, where, in 1837, he published an account of the circumstances. In the Boulogne plot, four years later, he was also concerned; but this time he did not succeed in escaping, but was tried and sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment. Owing to illness he enjoyed considerable liberty while in confinement, and employed his leisure in writing a long essay on the utility of the Pyramids of Egypt, which he sent to the Institute. On the fall of Louis Philippe M. de Persigny hastened to Paris, and again devoted himself to the Bonapartist cause. In 1849 he became a member of the As-



THE LATE DUC DE PERSIGNY.

sembly, and in this position rendered good service to the Prince President, crowning the work by playing a prominent part in the coup d'état. The hard work was now over, and he began in earnest to reap the results of it. He was made Minister of the Interior in 1852, and signed the decree confiscating the Orleans property. In 1854 he resigned office, and sat for a while in the Senate, to which he had been elected two years previously. In 1855 he came to London as Ambassador and remained until the commencement of 1858. He filled the same post a second time the next year, replacing Marshal Pelissier. In November, 1860, he returned to fill the post of Minister of the Interior, and resigned in June, 1863. Shortly afterwards he was created a Duke by the Emperor. From that period he ceased to play a prominent part in political affairs, but from time to time he spoke and wrote upon current topics. He was a declared enemy of the Parliamentary system, and approved of the restrictions placed upon the French press. M. de Persigny married, in 1852, the only daughter of the Prince of Moskowa, and received from the Emperor Napoleon on the occasion a wedding present of £20,000.

"ON THE WAY TO SCHOOL."

A PRETTY rustic picture, like that from which our Engraving is taken, comes upon us with a sort of shock, in the midst of school-board squabbles and fights about secularism and denominationalism.

Those who remember the quaint old village school-room by the little church, where the setting sun made long shadows beneath the ghostly, changeless, deathly, fadeless yews of the graveyard, and where solemn rooks cawed on bright Sabbath mornings as the bell tinkled out, will heave a sigh at all this turmoil, and will wonder how it comes about that the only officers who have had arduous duties to do in promoting education have been those whose business it is to haul street arabs before the magistrates that they may be sent to already ex-



"THE WAY TO SCHOOL."—(FROM A PICTURE BY B. VAUTIER.)

iting schools, where goodness knows what kind of denominationalism is taught, or what dreadful sectarianism may lie in ambush. Learning in that old school, the road to which lay down green lanes and across flowery knolls, went on with a kind of gentle humming, as though the whole alphabet had come to represent bees. There were many half-holidays, much play, some childish sweethearts, a curious, unmechanical, clumsy way of getting a little knowledge; but the scent of wild flowers and clover, the singing of birds, the plashing of the brook, the healthy, breezy air of the common, the odour of bean-fields and new-mown hay, the ring of innocent laughter, and the cheery simplicity of old-fashioned country life, seem to immortalise it; and "the way to school" revisits us in dreams sometimes, amidst the hard and murky journey that we take in after-life.

INSTRUCTION IN SCIENCE AND ART FOR WOMEN.

In the sixth of his series of lectures on physics and chemistry, delivered at the South Kensington Museum, last Saturday, Professor Guthrie made some further observations on the effect of heat in the expansion of solids, liquids, and gases, and on the relation between heat and temperature. The effect of heat in the expansion of liquids he illustrated by experiments with water and alcohol, showing that the latter expands to a greater extent than the former under the same increase of temperature. Placing the different liquids, coloured, in glass bulbs provided with upright tubes, and plunging these into hot water, he made the effect apparent in each case by using the electric light to exhibit the experiments on a magnified scale upon white screen. When immersed in the hot water, the glass bulb, he explained, expands; and, as its capacity is thereby increased, the liquid it contains at first sinks down, but, receiving the heat, it then expands, and consequently rises in the tube. The lecturer went on to show how the same law which these experiments illustrate comes into play in the action of the thermometer, the construction and graduation of which he described, pointing out the difference between the Centigrade and the Fahrenheit thermometer—the space between the freezing and boiling points being in the former case divided into a hundred, and in the latter into eighty degrees. While some liquids expand to a greater extent than others under the same increase of temperature, a similar phenomenon takes place in the case of metals, and this was illustrated by the heating of a compound bar, one side being iron and the other brass. Under the heat one side expands more than the other, and the bar assumes a curved form. The iron receives the heat first, and gets the outside of the curve; but the brass expands more than the iron ultimately, and the position is consequently reversed, the brass taking the outside of the curve. The expansion of gased under heat is more uniform than the expansion of solids or liquids, not being so much constrained by the cohesion of their parts. With regard to the expansion of liquids, it has to be noted that water at a certain temperature presents a striking peculiarity. Ice floats on water. How is this? The ice must be lighter than the water, and therefore in freezing it must have undergone some expansion. But examine the matter more attentively, and see what takes place. Take a mass of water at a temperature, say, of 20 deg. Centigrade. Gradually as you cool it down it shrinks until it reaches exactly 4 deg. Centigrade—that is, 4 deg. above freezing point. Cool it down still further, and, although not yet frozen, it expands—undergoing a still greater expansion at freezing point; so that at 4 deg. Centigrade water is at its greatest density. Water is lighter at all other degrees of temperature, and therefore it is that at this point of temperature water is taken as a standard for measuring the specific gravity or specific heat of different substances. Professor Guthrie then proceeded to explain more particularly the difference between heat and temperature, to which he had called attention in his previous lecture. Taking three glass cylinders of different capacities or diameters, and filling them all up with water to the same level, he showed that just as these cylinders contain different quantities of water at the same level, so do different substances, or different quantities of the same substance, at the same temperature, contain different quantities of heat. This fact he demonstrated by taking a number of balls of different substances—lead, zinc, bismuth, iron, copper, and tin—all heated together in oil of a given temperature, placing them on a cake of wax, and showing that while some of the balls sink through the wax more or less rapidly, others become only more or less imbedded in it, according to the different quantities of heat they contain, which are greater in the copper, iron, and zinc than in the lead, the bismuth, and the tin. Again, to return to the parallel illustration in the case of the cylinders, if you pour the same quantity of water into each of these, it will stand at a lower level in a wide than in a narrow cylinder; and so, if you put the same quantity of heat into each of those balls, you will find that the iron, the copper, and the zinc will be heated less than the lead, the bismuth, and the tin, because the former have greater capacities for heat than the latter, just as the wide cylinder has a greater capacity for holding water than the narrow. The Professor went on to show how, by taking water as the standard of measurement, the specific heats or the specific gravities of different bodies or substances are ascertained. The specific heat or the specific gravity of a substance is represented by number derived from proportion. Take a certain weight of water as the standard of measurement, and the same weight of iron, put the same quantity of heat into each, and ascertain by the differential thermometer to what extent each has been heated. The specific heat of the iron is the proportion between the alteration of its temperature and the alteration of the temperature of the water, under the influence of the same quantity of heat. As we must not confound heat with temperature, so neither must we confound a unit of heat with a degree of the thermometer. A unit of heat is the quantity of heat that is required to raise the temperature of water 1 deg. Centigrade. The effect of heat in relation to temperature is attended with certain phenomena. Taking a cylinder containing water as the body which was to receive heat, the lecturer gave an illustration of one of these phenomena. By pouring water into this cylinder you raise the level of the water to a certain height. But supposing the cylinder were to open out into a series of little cisterns at the side, rising at intervals above one another, while the water was being poured into the cylinder, the level would continue to rise until it came to the first opening, and then the water, although not lost, would be lost so far as the power to raise its level is concerned, until the first cisterns were filled. It would then go on rising as before until the second opening was reached, when the same thing would occur. This illustrates what actually occurs in the case of a body receiving heat, as in the case of a block of ice. Although not generally known, it is a fact that inside large blocks of ice the temperature is sometimes found to be several degrees below zero. It is possible to get ice some degrees below zero, and if you take a lump of it into a warm room you will find that for every quantity of heat it receives from the room it gets warmer. When, however, the ice is melting, it is refusing to be raised in temperature; and this may be compared to what takes place in the cylinder when the power of raising the level is lost by the water escaping into one of the cisterns at the side.

Professor Guthrie delivered another of his course of lectures on "Physics and Chemistry" at the South Kensington Museum, on Wednesday, when, the weather being extremely fine, there was an unusually large attendance. The lecturer took the opportunity of alluding to the much-to-be-regretted illness of Professor Huxley, and intimated that the series of lectures which, but for this illness, he would have given on "Biology," will be delivered by Dr. Michael Foster, of Cambridge. Professor Guthrie then proceeded with his lecture on "Physics and Chemistry," returning to the point where he left off on the previous occasion: the relation which heat bears to solids, liquids, and gases. Heat is required to melt a solid, and to vapourise a liquid; and a solid when melting, or a liquid when vaporising,

absorbs heat. The relation which heat bears to the three forms of matter, therefore, is this—that when a solid is converted into a liquid or a liquid into a gas, heat is absorbed; whereas, when a gas is converted into a liquid or a liquid into a solid, heat is liberated. Upon these relations depend all cases of evaporation and condensation. When a liquid boils the elasticity or tension of its vapour overcomes the pressure of the air, and if this pressure be diminished, the liquid boils at a lower temperature; whereas, if the pressure be increased, the temperature at which the liquid boils is higher. The lecturer went on to explain that heat may pass from place to place by conduction, convection, and radiation. Of the three forms of matter the best conductors of heat are solids, and the best conductors amongst solids are the metals. The best conductor among metals is silver, the best amongst non-metallic liquids is water, and the best amongst gases is hydrogen. With regard to convection, that can only take place in liquids and gases, and we have instances of it in ventilation, winds, and ocean currents. When radiant heat falls upon a body three things may take place. A portion of the heat may be cast off by reflection from the surface; a portion of it may penetrate and spread in the substance, being, not lost—because there is no such thing in Nature—but expended in heating that substance; and a portion may pass through it without being so expended. In other words, when radiant heat falls upon a body it may be reflected, transmitted, or absorbed. Bodies which allow heat to enter with difficulty are for that reason good reflectors, allow heat to quit them with difficulty, and are consequently good retainers and heat radiators. Smooth bright metallic surfaces are good reflectors, whilst rough, dark surfaces are bad reflectors. The former receive heat with more difficulty, but retain it better than the latter. If you want to boil water quickly, use a vessel with a surface of the latter description; but if you want to keep the water long hot, use one with a surface of the former description. Professor Guthrie went on to explain further that substances which allow heat to pass freely through them are called "diathermous," that diathermancy bears the same relation to heat as transparency does to light, that diathermous bodies bend the course of the heat which enters them, and that this property makes it possible to concentrate transmitted heat upon one point or focus. Having illustrated that part of his subject by a number of experiments, the Professor proceeded to make some observations on the subject of light. Light is emitted from all visible bodies. It may have its origin in the substance itself, which is then luminous; or the visible substance may reflect the light from other sources. The sun and the flame of a candle are instances of the first kind; the moon and most substances are instances of the second kind. The chief sources of light, as stated in a former lecture, are the sun, the light accompanying chemical change, and the light caused by electrical discharge. The great source of heat and light is, of course, the sun; and, although we have now in a measure become acquainted with the surface of the sun—or know pretty well what the surface of the sun consists of—we do not know so well what is the cause of the heat and light which the sun gives forth. For a long time it was supposed that the sun was a mass of solid matter, which was gradually cooling down. Then, when chemistry came to be more studied, and when we found that light was too often accompanied by chemical action, it was supposed that certain great chemical changes were going on in what we call the sun. Then, when the theory of heat came to be more considered, and when we began to see the relation between heat and mechanical force, we began to look for some mechanical cause of the sun's heat and light. Hence some suppose that the heat is kept up by the constant pouring in of water upon the sun's mass. We know the amount of heat produced by friction; the amount is proportional to the labour or mechanical force expended in overcoming the friction; we know how a ball is heated by falling from some height upon the earth; and probably if a body like the earth were to cease its revolutions, and fall in upon the sun, it would furnish sufficient to maintain the heat and light of the sun for several hundreds of years without sensibly augmenting its mass.

PROFESSOR FAWCETT ON MODERN SOCIALISM.

PROFESSOR FAWCETT commenced at Cambridge, on Saturday last, a course of lectures on the economic programme of the International Society. At the present time, he said, a movement was widely spreading among the working classes in favour of certain social and economic ideas which, if carried into practical effect, would produce a more organic change than the first French Revolution had done. Although entirely opposed to the movement, he wished to express a most emphatic warning against meeting it with a blind and unreasoning resistance; for, if an intelligent sympathy was exhibited towards the wants of the workmen, the movement might be turned to purposes of good. In tracing the causes which had created the present feeling of dissatisfaction amongst so many artisans, he contrasted the "constantly vaunted wealth" of the country with the unsatisfactory condition in which so many of the poor live. He attributed the present attitude of the working classes to a reaction against the idea, so prevalent twenty-five years ago, that the elevation of the masses could be secured simply by stimulating the production of wealth. Almost an angry feeling of disappointment had arisen when it was found that the wealth which had resulted from free trade and other agencies had left so much of the misery of the poor untouched. The people, being dissatisfied with the present marked and increasing inequalities of social condition, had singled out for reprobation the two circumstances to which they considered these inequalities were chiefly due—viz., the institution of private property, and what was called "the tyranny of capital." From these ideas had originated the Socialistic and the Communistic sentiment. The Professor alluded to some of the schemes of the earlier Socialists, such as St. Simon, Fourier, and Robert Owen. Whilst, he said, he insisted upon the impracticability of the schemes as proposed, he would vindicate their authors against the present attacks made upon them. They should be regarded as visionary but well-meaning enthusiasts. From the failure of their schemes, however, good had resulted; for it could not be denied that Robert Owen sowed the first germ of the present co-operative movement. Admitting that there was much that was unsatisfactory in the present industrial relations, Professor Fawcett insisted on the fact that a remedy was not to be looked for in the ideas and schemes put forward by modern Socialists. The fundamental distinction between modern Socialists and the Socialists of thirty years ago was this—"that the former were showing an unmistakable tendency to rely upon State intervention." He would illustrate this by saying that the following might be regarded as the economic programme of the International. The nationalisation of the land and the other instruments of production—or, in other words, their purchase by the State; secondly, regulation by the State of the hours of labour; thirdly, gratuitous State education; fourthly, the establishment by the State of schemes of associate industry. In subsequent lectures he promised to consider each part of this programme in detail.

THE LATE GEORGE WILSON.—Mrs. Wilson, widow of Mr. George Wilson, late president of the National Reform Union, who died a little while ago, was, on Monday, waited upon at her residence in Manchester by an influential body of gentlemen, who, on behalf of the union, presented to her an address expressing deep sympathy and condolence with her and her family in their bereavement. The address, which bore 1297 signatures of members of Parliament, deputy lieutenants, borough and county magistrates, mayors, &c., recapitulated the movement for the advancement of the society with which Mr. Wilson had been identified, and concluded thus:—"To us his pure and unselfish life will ever remain a clear and sacred example, while future ages, enlightened and refined, reaping the fruits of his labours, will bless his name." Sir Thomas Buxley, M.P., presented the address, and in doing so alluded in feeling terms to the great loss they had all sustained by the death of Mr. Wilson. Mr. George D. Wilson replied on behalf of his mother. Mr. Jacob Bright, M.P., and several of the members of the deputation took occasion to convey to Mrs. Wilson their personal expression of condolence with her and her family, and of their admiration of Mr. Wilson.

A MILITARY MARE'S NEST.

(From the "Daily News.")

A CONTEMPORARY recently printed a letter from a correspondent asking, in evident horror, whether readers could possibly realise the fact that there was a regiment (the 38th) at present at Dover armed with muzzle-loading rifles. If it was the intention of the propounder of this question to be sensational, he might have been true, that the gallant 38th are actually, as a regiment, at the present time without arms or accoutrements of any kind. The total armament of the regiment consists of exactly fifty-six muzzle-loading Enfield rifles, being in the proportion of seven to each company, and the equipment of accoutrements is of the same dimensions. The 38th takes its turn with the other regiments at Dover in garrison duty, with its modicum of muzzle-loaders; and the men off duty, since they have no waistbelts, and since it would be the height of brutality to confine to barracks, on account of its lack of waistbelts, a regiment just arrived from India, are to be seen in the streets "improperly dressed," to quote the military phraseology. Captain von Dönerwetter, of the Prussian staff, writes to his English friend that he is about to make a visit to that island, over the military history of which he has pored so many hours when a student at the Kreigssakademie. The English friend thinks it only right to go down to Dover to meet the Captain as he touches British soil. The Captain duly arrives. Friend, who has ordered dinner at his club, suggests procedure to town by the mail train. But the Captain is not to be hurried; he has read of Dover and its fortifications and defences, from the Castle Keep to the newest lines, from Queen Elizabeth's pocket-pistol to the latest 9-in. gun. The Captain insists on exploring Dover, and gathering from its garrison his first impressions as to the appearance and bearing of British troops. So the twain, after a slight reflection at the Lord Warden, sally forth on their way to the castle. The first military encountered are a "walking out" party of the Rifle Brigade, dapper, neat, and jaunty, from the love-lock on the right temple to the trim waist girt by the black belt. The Captain goes into grave ecstasies of admiration, and "Wonderful!" is the smallest word in his mouth. The friend buoyantly hums "Ninety-five, ninety-five," alternated with the "British Grenadiers," promenades the flag-stones with a proud and semi-martial tread, and is dwelling with his mind's eye on a picture of a whole army corps of Jäger fleeing in disorganisation before a sub-division of Prince Arthur's battalion. As the pair turn the corner of the street, there meet them full in the face a couple of men in red tunics, baggy trousers, and coarse old-pattern caps. Neither shows any waist at all; there is a total absence of shapeliness about the tunic, that "krunkles" up in wrinkles on the chest; for the belt that should keep it trim and taut, and give general neatness to the figure, is not to be seen on either pedestrian. "What are these?" asks the Captain, scanning them critically through his spectacles. Friend—a little disconcerted, and the "British Grenadiers" having terminated with some abruptness—attempts to turn the matter off. "Oh! men on fatigue, or militia perhaps, these fellows without waistbelts; you must make some allowances, you know, Captain, for our landwehrmen." "Nay," says the Captain, "these are no landwehrmen, for I see a regimental number on their shoulder-straps, and were they on fatigue would it be that they might walk into a guest-house with some maidens?" For, in truth, an adjournment of the kind indicated by the Captain has taken place. The Captain grants the kind of grunt to which in quiet corners General Blumenthal was so much addicted while the autumn manoeuvres were in progress, and the pair walk on towards the citadel. They halt when they reach the first garrison sentry. The sentry is a fine stalwart fellow, and is marching to and fro on the sky line with a brisk, soldier-like step. Friend's spirits rise as the Captain halts and cocks his spectacles in the direction of the sentry. "Not a bad style of man," friend presently interpolates, with a view of "drawing" the Captain's expression of opinion. The Captain does not seem to hear the observation. After a long deliberate stare, he solemnly takes off his spectacles and puts them in his pocket, as he mutters audibly, "Gott, if he walks not with a muzzle-loader! We breechloaded the Danes out of Schleswig in 1864." And as the pair proceed further, and pass garrison sentry after garrison sentry, the Captain's *sotto voce* exclamation ever is, "More muzzle-loaders, more muzzle-loaders!" For in very truth it is the 38th whose turn it is to find the garrison duty for the day, and the unfortunate fifty-six stand of muzzle-loaders, the sole armament of the regiment, are on show for the edification of the German Staff Captain, who proceeds to London pondering gravely over the problem which the sight has suggested to him, whether all he has heard about the Snider as the universal armament of the British Army, while the Henri-Martin are being turned out at high-pressure speed, is not insular dust flung into Continental eyes.

That Captain and correspondent have alike found a mare's nest is apparent when the facts of the case are detailed. After some fourteen years' good service in India, the turn came round for the 38th to return to England. The regiment, when it left England in 1857, had been armed with Enfield rifles—with Enfield rifles it had borne the brunt of many a hot fight in the days of the Mutiny, and as the time approached for its return home its arms were still the Enfields it had brought out. Whether, in common with all our regiments in India as well as at home, it should not have breech-loaders served out to it some time ago, is a question that it is probably easier for the curious to ask than for the authorities to answer conclusively. But, no such distribution having taken place previous to the approach of the time for the return of the 38th, it was obviously wise on the part of the authorities to allow the regiment to come home for its breech-loaders, in preference to sending out the breech-loaders to India to no other purpose than that they should almost immediately be brought back again. The line of action adopted in this case is in accordance with what has been the invariable practice; and a regiment armed with muzzle-loaders leaves its arms behind for the use of the sepoys and other native troops, bringing home with it only as many weapons as are required for the performance of guard duties on board ship. Thus it was that the fifty-six Enfields, which now form the sole offensive arms of the gallant 38th, found their way back to England. The regiment landed at Portsmouth on the 9th, and at once proceeded to Dover, where, as part of the garrison, it has devolved upon it, as we have said, to do garrison duty in its turn, using for this duty its modicum of muzzle-loaders and accoutrements. But the breech-loaders were lying in Dover Arsenal, waiting the arrival of the regiment. As soon as possible after that event the serving out of them and the accompanying accoutrements began, and is now complete, nearly, if not altogether. But, as all soldiers know, arms and belts must be marked and numbered before issue to the men; and this duty is necessarily a regimental one. Marking and numbering is busily going on in the store-rooms of the 38th; and in the course of a few days the issue of arms and accoutrements will take place, when muzzle-loaders will be no more seen on the cliffs of Dover, nor beltless privates escorting "maiden" into its "guest-houses." It cannot be said that three weeks is an unreasonable length of time to be consumed in drawing, marking, and issuing the arms and accoutrements of a whole regiment; and for the rest, the whole matter has been one of the simplest routine.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.—A deputation from the London School Board waited, on Tuesday, upon the Home Secretary, on the subject of increasing the number of industrial schools. The activity of the officers of the board had gathered up 400 "poor unfortunate and neglected children" out of the streets; but that had filled all the industrial schools. The board must, therefore, give up this part of its work unless the Government would allow the system to be extended by certifying as industrial schools those new buildings which private persons—with the assistance of the school board—were willing to erect, and by permitting the enlargement of existing schools. Mr. Bruce, in reply, said he should propose that the Government should not refuse those applications, but that in future the grant will be reduced from 3s. to 3s. 6d.

ILLUSTRATED TIMES

THE NATIONAL EDUCATION LEAGUE.

The following circular, which has been issued by the managing committee of this body, contains the reasons for the adoption of new programme of the league:

"We desire to call your particular attention to the following document laid before the executive committee, at its meeting on the 17th inst., and to the resolutions adopted therein:—The National Education League was founded to promote the establishment of a national system of education, locally administered, compulsory, unsectarian, rate-supported, and free. The intention of the founders was to supplement the deficiencies of existing schools by the creation of new schools, under the management of school boards elected by and responsible to the rate-payers in all parts of the country. It was hoped and believed that by the example and example of such schools, and by the superiority of their management, the conductors of all existing schools would naturally be led to associate themselves with the new system, and that a really national system would gradually take the place of the denominational schools, which, in private and irresponsible hands, have afforded, and can afford, only partial and inefficient means of instruction, in consequence of subordinating secular teaching to the inculcation of sectarian theological doctrines. These hopes and expectations have been disappointed. The measure introduced by her Majesty's Government—most objectionable in its original form—issued from Parliament in the shape of a concordat between the Ministry and the advocates of sectarian teaching. Instead of providing for the establishment of a national system under the control of elected bodies, it strengthened and extended the sectarian system, encouraged applications for new building grants for denominational schools, rendered inevitable the imposition of a new church rate upon the country, created an incessant and increasingly-embittered religious difficulty, and perpetuated a system by which national taxes and local rates are intrusted for expenditure to irresponsible private persons, over whom teaching the community has no control. In addition to this, the Ministers of the Crown, of their own motion, raised by one half the payments to sectarian schools, thus enabling them, in many cases, to dispense with local subscriptions, on the faith of which national funds were originally granted to school managers. The result is that upwards of 3200 applications have been made for new building grants, involving an expenditure of £600,000; and that the annual grant for school maintenance will probably be increased by one half, the whole of this amount going into the hands of irresponsible persons for the direct promotion of sectarian interests and the teaching of sectarian doctrines, chiefly those of the Anglican Church and of the Church of Rome. By these means, and by the further means of grants (by the payment of school fees) under the authority of school boards, these Churches, and other religious bodies who may choose to participate with them, secure a concurrent endowment at the cost of the State and of local communities; and, by the strengthening of existing interests and the creation of new interests, the establishment of a national system of education will become increasingly difficult with the progress of time. It is, therefore, necessary for the advocates of a national system to develop their plans, and to give their movement a direction in accordance with the state of things created by the united action of the Government and the denominationalists. It is no longer possible to secure the original objects of the league by merely endeavouring to supplement the deficiencies of the denominational system. The efforts of the league and of kindred organisations must be directed towards remodelling the present system in such a manner as to secure efficient control by the State and the rate-payers, and at the same time to afford to the denominations the fullest opportunity of giving religious instruction in accordance with their respective opinions. For this purpose the plan of separate religious instruction (already conceded in principle, though imperfectly recognised in practice by the conscience clause) must be extended to all existing schools. In this way, and in no other, can the claims of the denominations be reconciled with the right of a nation to a complete, uniform, and efficient system of teaching in secular subjects, controlled and directed by those who provide the necessary funds; a system freely open to all classes; based upon the principle of compulsory attendance; and abstaining from any violation of the right of conscience. In accordance with requests from leading members of the League, the executive took into consideration the position of the education question as affected by the working of the Education Act, the increase of building grants for denominational schools, the increase of the annual grant, and the demands of the Irish Roman Catholic priests for a sectarian system of education. After mature consideration, the following recommendations were adopted by the Executive Committee, as indicating the manner in which the principles of the league are applicable to the circumstances thus created:—

"1. The compulsory election of school boards in all districts.

"2. No schools to be recognised as public elementary schools but those under the control of elected school boards.

"3. Existing school buildings to be placed, by consent, under the control of such boards, for use during the hours of secular instruction, to be given under the direction of school boards; the buildings to be retained for all other purposes by the denominations with which they are connected.

"4. Any school in respect to which such control is declined, to be excluded from participation in the annual Government grant.

"5. In all schools provided by school boards out of local rates, periods entirely separate and distinct from the time allotted to ordinary school teaching may be set apart for instruction in religion on week days. Such religious instruction to be given by denominations at their own cost, and by their own teachers appointed for that purpose, but no privilege to be given to one denomination over another. In cases of dispute, appeal to be made to the Education Department."

THANKSGIVING SERVICE AT ST. PAUL'S.—The arrangement of the interior of St. Paul's Cathedral for the forthcoming thanksgiving service is to be commenced in a few days, and during the time occupied by the preparation, the ordinary daily and special services will be suspended. The order of service upon the opening is to begin with the "Te Deum Laudamus," followed by 250 voices to the accompaniment of the organ. This will be followed by a special form of prayer, after which an anthem, composed by Mr. John Goss to words selected from Psalm cxviii., will be performed. This will be succeeded by a short sermon, at the end of which a hymn is to be sung, in which the congregation will join. The tune for the hymn will be "Gloria," the composition of the Prince Consort. After the delivery of the sermon, by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the service will be concluded. —*Morning Post.* Tuesday, the 27th inst., has been fixed for the thanksgiving.

BRETT'S PEERAGE AND BARONETAGE.—As a standard work of reference, "Brett's," in point of antiquity, is without a competitor. Its pedigree has continued upwards of a century and a half, and some idea of the vast number of changes which it has recorded may be gathered from a few facts relating to last year. The number of peers removed by death was eighteen; of peersesses thirteen; of baronets, thirty-one; and of knights, forty-three. Two peerages became extinct; four new ones were created. Six baronetcates were created, and four became extinct. Twelve new members were sworn of the Privy Council, and thirty-nine gentlemen received the honour of knighthood. Both works overflow with facts, and, although its errors may creep in where 14,000 alterations have to be made every year, the support given to "Brett's" speaks volumes for the general correctness of its pages.

CHANGES IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—When the House of Commons re-assembles, on the 6th inst., the following members will be entitled to sit in their seats:—Mr. Watney, for East Surrey, in the room of Mr. Austin, deceased; Colonel Hogg, for Truro, in succession to Captain Vivian, now Permanent Under-Secretary for War; Mr. Isaac Butt, Q.C., for the city of Limerick, in the room of the late Mr. W. F. Russell; the Solicitor General, on his re-election for Dover; and Mr. Bates, for Southwark, in succession to Sir R. P. Collier, who has been elevated to the peerage. New writs will be moved for the Wick Burghs and West Cheshire, dependent upon the resignations of Mr. Leach and Mr. John Tollemache; in a few days later for North Notts, from the representation of which the present Speaker will retire. Sir John Coleridge and Mr. Dowe will take their seats as Attorney-General respectively for England and Ireland, but under the Reform Act of 1867 it has not been necessary for either to be re-elected, both having previously held offices under the Crown.

DEAN STANLEY ON THE ART OF PRINTING.

ON Sunday morning the establishment of a fund, to be devoted to the relief (by way of annual pensions) of the aged and necessitous daughters of printers, was inaugurated by Dean Stanley in Westminster Abbey. The fund is to be called the Westminster Abbey Pension Fund, and is established in commemoration of the fact that the art of printing in England emanated from Westminster Abbey. Dean Stanley took his text from Genesis, "Let there be light." The words were not to be taken as an exact exponent of scientific truth. If they were, we should find ourselves in endless difficulties as to whether light could have existed before the creation of the sun and moon, as to the time of the creation of the stars, and as to the relation of the Hebrew to the other cosmogonies of the earth. But, putting aside all these questions, and taking the Bible and the book of Genesis in their true aspect, then the text presented no difficulty, and was full of the deepest meaning. It was the first expression which the Bible contained of the Divine will. It was, according to the conception of the sacred writer, the first command which broke the silence of eternity. It was the first tribute to the paramount greatness, the inestimable value, of light over darkness in all the coming ages of the world, then first struggling into existence. Well might the ancient heathen philosopher exclaim on reading this passage that it was the very model of sublime expression. Well might the English poet, in his long solitary night of blindness, draw from the text his lofty reflections. Those who had ever visited the great city of Strasburg might remember it contained in its market-place the image of its most renowned citizen, the first founder of that noble art which they were met to-day to commemorate. On the pedestal of that statue were written the simple words, "Let there be light." The words were indeed no exaggeration of the great event which that statue celebrated. There was light. In a few years from the time that Guttenberg set up a press in Strasburg the treasures of ancient learning were scattered over Europe, a new world was discovered by Columbus, and the great day of the Reformation came. From that simple mechanical contrivance rays of light were shot forth which found their way into cottage and palace, castle and cavern, and the light thus kindled became, by reason of its own strength, absolutely inextinguishable. Never did the appliances of matter so assist the efforts of the mind. Never did the human intellect so identify itself with the marvels of mechanical skill. One of the first founders of the printing art, the companion of Guttenberg, became the subject of one of the most striking efforts of the genius of a great European poet. In the work of "Faust" the great German represented the struggle of human intellect in its search after truth, in its craving after light, in its grappling with the great problems which agitate human thought, and of which the invention of printing was the first pledge and emblem. The art of printing, the legend and drama of "Faust," represented the spread of light in its purely intellectual aspect. In the spread of English printing the same truth was expressed, but under a softer and gentler atmosphere. Caxton, the venerable patriarch of English printers, set up his printing-press, as he himself had said in the titlepages of his earliest works, in Westminster Abbey, within the precincts of the Chapel of St. Ann, beside the ancient Almony. There he worked under the fostering care of the kindly Abbot whose tomb in the northern aisle had lately been rescued from long neglect. Here, also, he received the patronage of the princely lady whose tomb may be still seen within the abbey walls. The connection between Lady Margaret and William Caxton was never lost. It was recalled again and again in the titlepages of Caxton's printed works. Caxton's monument was to be found in the neighbouring Church of St. Margaret, but of the ancient Almony in which he worked not a vestige remained. His memory was well retained in the singular name given by printers to their meetings, which have over them, as it were, a holy atmosphere. After referring to Dean Milman, who, while a Canon in Westminster Abbey, had inaugurated a fund called the Caxton Pension, Dean Stanley concluded by making a powerful appeal on behalf of the charity inaugurated that day. A sum of £93 5s. 6d. was collected after the sermon.

HOMES FOR WORKING BOYS.

THE first festival of an institution for providing homes for working boys in London was celebrated, on Tuesday night, by a dinner at the London Tavern. Colonel Hogg, M.P., chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Works, took the chair, supported by Sir Charles Jackson; Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P.; Mr. T. Chambers, Q.C., M.P.; Mr. Robert Hanbury, Mr. George Hanbury, Mr. George Moore, Mr. H. Willans, Mr. A. D. Chapman, Mr. A. O. Charles, Mr. Quintin Hogg, the Rev. R. Moore, Mr. G. H. Frean, Mr. C. D. Fox, Mr. C. R. Ford, and others. About ninety ladies and gentlemen sat down to a well-served dinner. The first toasts, "The Queen," proposed by the chairman, and "The Prince and Princess of Wales and other members of the Royal Family," proposed by Sir Charles Jackson, having been responded to with great heartiness, the chairman gave the principal toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Homes for Working Boys in London." After a few remarks upon the educational advantages offered to the boys who became inmates of these homes, the chairman said that among these might be mentioned the fact that the boys were taught to cultivate a manly spirit of independence. The institution was not entirely charitable, the boys being obliged to pay a portion of their earnings for food and clothes, besides a certain sum, proportionate to the amount of their wages, for rent. The children who left the numerous charitable institutions in the metropolis and began to earn their own living sorely needed well-ordered, clean houses, where they would be under some kind of supervision for the first few years of their lives, and would find themselves in a wholesome, moral atmosphere, and it was to assist in affording such timely help that the benevolent founders of this institution now appealed to the public. Two homes—one in Portman-square and one in Spital-square—had already been established, and he invited all who felt interested in the success of this important work to go, as he had himself done, to these homes, and see the excellent results of the movement. Mr. George Hanbury, the treasurer, in responding, gave some instances from his experience of the useful working of the institution in removing boys from the temptations which would beset them in the common lodging-houses, to which but for these homes they would be driven. A large sum of money was needed, in order that new homes might be opened. There were other homes, conducted on a somewhat similar principle, which were also doing good work. Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., in proposing the health of the chairman, congratulated Mr. Hanbury on being the originator of this excellent scheme. The chairman, in responding, said he had received several subscriptions from employers of labour, who were pleased to have honest, well-conducted boys, of whose moral character they could get a satisfactory account. Mr. Thomas Chambers, M.P., in proposing the committee and stewards, argued that the institution, although not perhaps entirely benevolent, was entirely charitable in the best sense of the word, since it helped those who helped themselves. Mr. A. O. Charles, the hon. secretary, in acknowledging the compliment, explained that the cost of maintaining each home was about £300 a year. In the two homes there were eighty boys, whose average earnings were—in the West-End home 7s. 2d. per week, in the City home 6s. 6d. per week. Altogether, their earnings were about £1450 per annum. They paid for their food and clothes, and from £s. per week upwards, according to their earnings, for rent. The balance of rent, the cost of supervision, teaching, &c., had to be met by subscriptions. The two homes had been at work two years, and Mr. Morley had now offered to fit up and furnish a third, and to pay the rent for four years, if the subscribers would undertake to carry out the work. For the first time, they had appealed to the public; and he was glad to say that a liberal response had been made to the call for assistance. He then read a list of subscriptions, headed by the chairman's list with £588, and amounting altogether to £1260. After the

speeches the company withdrew to another room, where a concert was given by the members of the West London Amateur Orchestral and Choral Society, conducted by Mr. W. Betts.

THE RE-ARMAMENT OF EUROPE.

NOTWITHSTANDING the close secrecy which always shrouds military matters in Prussia, it is well known that an armament activity prevails in the Government workshops, and that most of them are being enlarged to the extent of tripling or even quadrupling their working capacity. It is proposed to renew the entire effective force of the German Empire, except Bavaria, within five years, which would imply an average production of small-arms of at least 200,000 per annum, whereas hitherto it has been considerably less than half that number in all the German States together.

It is interesting at this moment to review the condition in which other European States and we ourselves are, in regard to facing the many new and difficult problems which the general introduction of breech-loaders as the soldier's weapon involves. The old muzzle-loader could be made, more or less well, by any gunsmith with the ordinary appliances of his trade; and it is only within the last ten or fifteen years that the manufacture of small-arms by machinery has commenced on a scale of any magnitude. For the breech-loader, however, machinery of a special and expensive kind is indispensable. Its essence is a mechanism more or less ingenious, more or less simple; but, whatever its pattern or the system may be, it cannot be efficiently and in large numbers made by hand cheaply. In fact, a military breech-loader, to be of first quality, should be in all its parts interchangeable—that is to say, any one of, perhaps, twenty or thirty pieces in the mechanism should fit into 100,000 or more arms of the same description. It has therefore become as much, if not more, the engineer's work as the gunmaker's; and that country is the best prepared for a sudden emergency which possesses the most complete establishments of this character, whether public or private.

There can be no doubt that the Americans are in this respect very much ahead of all European countries, not even excepting Great Britain. The War of Secession gave them what they themselves would call the "start;" and when, after 1866, the enormous demand for military breech-loaders arose, some three or four great factories—notably Colt's, that of Messrs. Remington, the Providence Tool Company, &c.—were able to deliver between 300,000 and 400,000 improved rifles, sometimes with incredibly short periods of delivery; while Great Britain, even under the exceptional stimulus of the Franco-Prussian war, did not probably export 50,000 Sniders, and was utterly unable to produce a new pattern within the short notice allowed. It must here be remarked that a great factory toolled for any particular system of breech-loading arms has very serious difficulties to contend with in manufacturing another, and cannot do so without much outlay of money and time. Yet all such establishments prepare themselves *ab initio* for some particular system, which they furnish in preference to others, and which is generally that adopted by the Government of the country. This difficulty of changing from one system to another accounts for the backwardness of most Continental Governments in going to the vast expense of State establishments of this sort until the system of breech-loading shall be definitely decided upon, which it is not yet in the majority of European countries.

Next to America will shortly be Russia. That Government is now hurrying on contracts here and in America for fabulous quantities of machinery intended for a gigantic small-arms factory in the centre of the empire, which, when completed, will turn out about 200,000 a year of breech-loaders on the Berdan principle.

Austria has in Styria a great factory capable of turning out about 80,000 a year on the Werndl principle.

France has a factory at St. Etienne, worked in partnership by the Government with a private company, which is able to furnish about 100,000 Chassepots per annum. It is, however, only partially toolled upon the "interchangeable," or "machinework," principle, and the French military authorities are said to entertain a project of erecting an additional and larger factory according to the most modern mechanical improvements.

In Belgium, although the export of military arms of a secondary quality—chiefly hand-made—is very great, there is as yet no establishment of the kind we refer to.

The same is true of Italy and Spain, in both of which there are arms factories of a certain importance, but upon the old-fashioned method. In both countries the respective Governments contemplate the erection of extensive national small-arms factories, so soon as they shall have decided what system of breech-loading to adopt.

Compared to its population, Bavaria ranks very high in its productive capacity of arms. Having adopted the Werder some years, and been under way with the manufacture before the late war broke out, it is now able to furnish about 210,000 per annum of that description of rifle.

Switzerland, which stands alone in its adoption of a repeating rifle for its infantry, the Vetterli, has only just commenced the execution of a contract for 80,000, which will occupy about two years, and which is given out to a number of private manufacturers, each making a special part. The principal small-arms factory in Switzerland is that at Neuhausen, near the falls of the Rhine, which is chiefly machined and toolled for the manufacture of the Vetterli.

Great Britain has unquestionably the model of a Government establishment of this kind in the Royal Ordnance Factory near Enfield, the plant of which is now being altered for the manufacture of the new service arms, and which within the last year has been very much enlarged. Outside of this quite exceptional establishment the productive capacity of this country can scarcely be said to be in proportion with its enormous mechanical resources. The chief private establishments are the Birmingham Small-Arms Company, originally designed for the manufacture of the Snider; the London Small-Arms Company, on a smaller scale, with the same view; and the Westley-Richards Arms and Ammunition Company, which has only recently established its works. Leaving out of question the sporting rifles and so-called military arms which are exported in enormous quantities to the East and to Africa, the productive capacity of the "trade" of an approved Government pattern has probably never exceeded 100,000 a year; and now that this pattern has been replaced by another, it is doubtful whether the Government could within the next year or two depend upon the industrial resources of the country, as they are at present, for more than an average of 50,000 arms outside of its own factory.

Altogether, the requirements of European States alone within the next five years may be safely estimated at about 5,000,000 stands of arms of various descriptions, which, with existing appliances all the world over, could not possibly be supplied in fifteen years, even if no changes were impending in the armament of every country. This comforting reflection may be derived from the fact that, bating political thunderclaps, we are authorised to hope for a long respite from war; for a terrible experience has proved that upon the more or less judicious manner in which this question of re-armament is met by each Government and country its very existence may depend; and all, therefore, show a wise prudence in solving the problem before entering on a trial of strength. Upon the whole, and although there is much yet left to be done, we may say that we hold our own on this point with our more military neighbours, and that in some respects we have anticipated them.—*Standard.*

SEVERAL GENTLEMEN connected with the Alexandra Orphanage, Hornsey-ridge, a few months ago, offered to give 100 guineas each, in payments of 25 guineas per annum for four years, provided the list of those willing to do so was made up to fifty. There are now forty-three subscribers to this special fund, and the committee earnestly appeal to the benevolent to help them to complete the number, so that the debt on this useful charity may be extinguished.

ing schools, where goodness knows what kind of denominationalism is taught, or what dreadful sectarianism may lie in ambush. Learning in that old school, the road to which lay down green lanes and across flowery knolls, went on with a kind of gentle humming, as though the whole alphabet had come to represent bees. There were many half-holidays, much play, some childish sweethearts, a curious, unmechanical, clumsy way of getting a little knowledge; but the scent of wild flowers and clover, the singing of birds, the plashing of the brook, the healthy, breezy air of the common, the odour of bean-fields and new-mown hay, the ring of innocent laughter, and the cheery simplicity of old-fashioned country life, seem to immortalise it; and "the way to school" revisits us in dreams sometimes, amidst the hard and murky journey that we take in after-life.

INSTRUCTION IN SCIENCE AND ART FOR WOMEN.

In the sixth of his series of lectures on physics and chemistry, delivered at the South Kensington Museum, last Saturday, Professor Guthrie made some further observations on the effect of heat in the expansion of solids, liquids, and gases, and on the relation between heat and temperature. The effect of heat in the expansion of liquids he illustrated by experiments with water and alcohol, showing that the latter expands to a greater extent than the former under the same increase of temperature. Placing the different liquids, coloured, in glass bulbs provided with upright tubes, and plunging these into hot water, he made the effect apparent in each case by using the electric light to exhibit the experiments on a magnified scale upon a white screen. When immersed in the hot water, the glass bulb, he explained, expands; and, as its capacity is thereby increased, the liquid it contains at first sinks down, but, receiving the heat, it then expands, and consequently rises in the tube. The lecturer went on to show how the same law which these experiments illustrate comes into play in the action of the thermometer, the construction and graduation of which he described, pointing out the difference between the Centigrade and the Fahrenheit thermometer—the space between the freezing and boiling points being in the former case divided into a hundred, and in the latter into eighty degrees. While some liquids expand to a greater extent than others under the same increase of temperature, a similar phenomenon takes place in the case of metals, and this was illustrated by the heating of a compound bar, one side being iron and the other brass. Under the heat one side expands more than the other, and the bar assumes a curved form. The iron receives the heat first, and gets the outside of the curve; but the brass expands more than the iron ultimately, and the position is consequently reversed, the brass taking the outside of the curve. The expansion of gases under heat is more uniform than the expansion of solids or liquids, not being so much constrained by the cohesion of their parts. With regard to the expansion of liquids, it has to be noted that water at a certain temperature presents a striking peculiarity. Ice floats on water. How is this? The ice must be lighter than the water, and therefore in freezing it must have undergone some expansion. But examine the matter more attentively, and see what takes place. Take a mass of water at a temperature, say, of 20 deg. Centigrade. Gradually as you cool it down it shrinks until it reaches exactly 4 deg. Centigrade—that is, 4 deg. above freezing point. Cool it down still further, and, although not yet frozen, it expands—undergoing a still greater expansion at freezing point; so that at 4 deg. Centigrade water is at its greatest density. Water is lighter at all other degrees of temperature, and therefore it is that at this point of temperature water is taken as a standard for measuring the specific gravity or specific heat of different substances. Professor Guthrie then proceeded to explain more particularly the difference between heat and temperature, to which he had called attention in his previous lecture. Taking three glass cylinders of different capacities or diameters, and filling them all up with water to the same level, he showed that just as these cylinders contain different quantities of water at the same level, so do different substances, or different quantities of the same substance, at the same temperature, contain different quantities of heat. This fact he demonstrated by taking a number of balls of different substances—lead, zinc, bismuth, iron, copper, and tin—all heated together in oil of a given temperature, placing them on a cake of wax, and showing that while some of the balls sink through the wax more or less rapidly, others become only more or less imbedded in it, according to the different quantities of heat they contain, which are greater in the copper, iron, and zinc than in the lead, the bismuth, and the tin. Again, to return to the parallel illustration in the case of the cylinders, if you pour the same quantity of water into each of these, it will stand at a lower level in a wide than in a narrow cylinder; and so, if you put the same quantity of heat into each of those balls, you will find that the iron, the copper, and the zinc will be heated less than the lead, the bismuth, and the tin, because the former have greater capacities for heat than the latter, just as the wide cylinder has a greater capacity for holding water than the narrow. The Professor went on to show how, by taking water as the standard of measurement, the specific heats or the specific gravities of different bodies or substances are ascertained. The specific heat or the specific gravity of a substance is represented by number derived from proportion. Take a certain weight of water as the standard of measurement, and the same weight of iron, put the same quantity of heat into each, and ascertain by the differential thermometer to what extent each has been heated. The specific heat of the iron is the proportion between the alteration of its temperature and the alteration of the temperature of the water, under the influence of the same quantity of heat. As we must not confound heat with temperature, so neither must we confound a unit of heat with a degree of the thermometer. A unit of heat is the quantity of heat that is required to raise the temperature of water 1 deg. Centigrade. The effect of heat in relation to temperature is attended with certain phenomena. Taking a cylinder containing water as the body which was to receive heat, the lecturer gave an illustration of one of these phenomena. By pouring water into this cylinder, you raise the level of the water to a certain height. But supposing the cylinder were to open out into a series of little cisterns at the side, rising at intervals above one another, while the water was being poured into the cylinder, the level would continue to rise until it came to the first opening, and then the water, although not lost, would be lost so far as the power to raise its level is concerned, until the first cistern were filled. It would then go on rising as before until the second opening was reached, when the same thing would occur. This illustrates what actually occurs in the case of a body receiving heat, as in the case of a block of ice. Although not generally known, it is a fact that inside large blocks of ice the temperature is sometimes found to be several degrees below zero. It is possible to get ice some degrees below zero, and if you take a lump of it into a warm room you will find that for every quantity of heat it receives from the room it gets warmer. When, however, the ice is melting, it is refusing to be raised in temperature; and this may be compared to what takes place in the cylinder when the power of raising the level is lost by the water escaping into one of the cisterns at the side.

Professor Guthrie delivered another of his course of lectures on "Physics and Chemistry" at the South Kensington Museum, on Wednesday, when, the weather being extremely fine, there was an unusually large attendance. The lecturer took the opportunity of alluding to the much-to-be-regretted illness of Professor Huxley, and intimated that the series of lectures which, but for this illness, he would have given on "Biology," will be delivered by Dr. Michael Foster, of Cambridge. Professor Guthrie then proceeded with his lecture on "Physics and Chemistry," returning to the point where he left off on the previous occasion: the relation which heat bears to solids, liquids, and gases. Heat is required to melt a solid, and to vapourise a liquid; and a solid when melting, or a liquid when vaporising

absorbs heat. The relation which heat bears to the three forms of matter, therefore, is this—that when a solid is converted into a liquid or a liquid into a gas, heat is absorbed; whereas, when a gas is converted into a liquid or a liquid into a solid, heat is liberated. Upon these relations depend all cases of evaporation and condensation. When a liquid boils the elasticity or tension of its vapour overcomes the pressure of the air, and if this pressure be diminished the liquid boils at a lower temperature; whereas, if the pressure be increased, the temperature at which the liquid boils is higher. The lecturer went on to explain that heat may pass from place to place by conduction, convection, and radiation. Of the three forms of matter the best conductors of heat are solids, and the best conductors amongst solids are the metals. The best conductor among metals is silver, the best amongst non-metallic liquids is water, and the best amongst gases is hydrogen. With regard to convection, that can only take place in liquids and gases, and we have instances of it in ventilation, winds, and ocean currents. When radiant heat falls upon a body three things may take place. A portion of the heat may be cast off by reflection from the surface; a portion of it may penetrate and spread in the substance, being, not lost—because there is no such thing in Nature—but expended in heating that substance; and a portion may pass through it without being so expended. In other words, when radiant heat falls upon a body it may be reflected, transmitted, or absorbed. Bodies which allow heat to enter with difficulty are for that reason good reflectors, allow heat to quit them with difficulty, and are consequently good retainers and heat radiators. Smooth bright metallic surfaces are good reflectors, whilst rough, dark surfaces are bad reflectors. The former receive heat with more difficulty, but retain it better than the latter. If you want to boil water quickly, use a vessel with a surface of the latter description; but if you want to keep the water long hot, use one with a surface of the former description. Professor Guthrie went on to explain further that substances which allow heat to pass freely through them are called "diathermic," that diathermancy bears the same relation to heat as transparency does to light, that diathermic bodies bend the course of the heat which enters them, and that this property makes it possible to concentrate transmitted heat upon one point or focus. Having illustrated that part of his subject by a number of experiments, the Professor proceeded to make some observations on the subject of light. Light is emitted from all visible bodies. It may have its origin in the substance itself, which is then luminous; or the visible substance may reflect the light from other sources. The sun and the flame of a candle are instances of the first kind; the moon and most substances are instances of the second kind. The chief sources of light, as stated in a former lecture, are the sun, the light accompanying chemical change, and the light caused by electrical discharge. The great source of heat and light is, of course, the sun; and, although we have now in a measure become acquainted with the surface of the sun—or know pretty well what the surface of the sun consists of—we do not know so well what is the cause of the heat and light which the sun gives forth. For a long time it was supposed that the sun was a mass of solid matter, which was gradually cooling down. Then, when chemistry came to be more studied, and when we found that light was too often accompanied by chemical action, it was supposed that certain great chemical changes were going on in what we call the sun. Then, when the theory of heat came to be more considered, and when we began to see the relation between heat and mechanical force, we began to look for some mechanical cause of the sun's heat and light. Hence some suppose that the heat is kept up by the constant pouring in of water upon the sun's mass. We know the amount of heat produced by friction, the amount is proportional to the labour or mechanical force expended in overcoming the friction; we know how a ball is heated by falling from some height upon the earth; and probably if a body like the earth were to cease its revolutions, and fall in upon the sun, it would furnish sufficient to maintain the heat and light of the sun for several hundreds of years without sensibly augmenting its mass.

PROFESSOR FAWCETT ON MODERN SOCIALISM.

PROFESSOR FAWCETT commenced at Cambridge, on Saturday last, a course of lectures on the economic programme of the International Society. At the present time, he said, a movement was widely spreading among the working classes in favour of certain social and economic ideas which, if carried into practical effect, would produce a more organic change than the first French Revolution had done. Although entirely opposed to the movement, he wished to express a most emphatic warning against meeting it with a blind and unreasoning resistance; for, if an intelligent sympathy was exhibited towards the wants of the workmen, the movement might be turned to purposes of good. In tracing the causes which had created the present feeling of dissatisfaction amongst so many artisans, he contrasted the "constantly vaunted wealth" of the country with the unsatisfactory condition in which so many of the poor live. He attributed the present attitude of the working classes to a reaction against the idea, so prevalent twenty-five years ago, that the elevation of the masses could be secured simply by stimulating the production of wealth. Almost an angry feeling of disappointment had arisen when it was found that the wealth which had resulted from free trade and other agencies had left so much of the misery of the poor untouched. The people, being dissatisfied with the present marked and increasing inequalities of social condition, had singled out for reprobation the two circumstances to which they considered these inequalities were chiefly due—viz., the institution of private property, and what was called "the tyranny of capital." From these ideas had originated the Socialistic and the Communistic sentiment. The Professor alluded to some of the schemes of the earlier Socialists, such as St. Simon, Fourier, and Robert Owen. Whilst, he said, he insisted upon the impracticability of the schemes as proposed, he would vindicate their authors against the present attacks made upon them. They should be regarded as visionary but well-meaning enthusiasts. From the failure of their schemes, however, good had resulted; for it could not be denied that Robert Owen sowed the first germ of the present co-operative movement. Admitting that there was much that was unsatisfactory in the present industrial relations, Professor Fawcett insisted on the fact that a remedy was not to be looked for in the ideas and schemes put forward by modern Socialists. The fundamental distinction between modern Socialists and the Socialists of thirty years ago was this—"that the former were showing an unmistakable tendency to rely upon State intervention." He would illustrate this by saying that the following might be regarded as the economic programme of the International. The nationalisation of the land and the other instruments of production—or, in other words, their purchase by the State; secondly, regulation by the State of the hours of labour; thirdly, gratuitous State education; fourthly, the establishment by the State of schemes of associate industry. In subsequent lectures he promised to consider each part of this programme in detail.

THE LATE GEORGE WILSON.—Mrs. Wilson, widow of Mr. George Wilson, late president of the National Reform Union, who died a little while ago, was, on Monday, waited upon at her residence in Manchester by an influential body of gentlemen, who, on behalf of the union, presented to her an address expressing deep sympathy and condolence with her and her family in their bereavement. The address, which bore 1297 signatures of members of Parliament, deputy lieutenants, borough and county magistrates, mayors, &c., recapitulated the movement for the advancement of the society with which Mr. Wilson had been identified, and concluded thus:—"To us his pure and unselfish life will ever remain a clear and sacred example, while future ages, enlightened and refined, reaping the fruits of his labours, will bless his name." Sir Thomas Buxley, M.P., presented the address, and in doing so alluded in feeling terms to the great loss they had all sustained by the death of Mr. Wilson. Mr. George D. Wilson replied on behalf of his mother, Mr. Jacob Bright, M.P., and several of the members of the deputation took occasion to convey to Mrs. Wilson their personal expression of condolence with her and her family, and of their admiration of Mr. Wilson.

A MILITARY MARE'S NEST.

(From the "Daily News.")

A CONTEMPORARY recently printed a letter from a correspondent asking, in evident horror, whether readers could possibly realise the fact that there was a regiment (the 38th) at present at Dover armed with muzzle-loading rifles. If it was the intent of the propounder of this question to be sensational, he might well have been true, that the gallant 38th are actually, as regiments at the present time without arms or accoutrements of any kind. The total armament of the regiment consists of exactly fifty-six muzzle-loading Enfield rifles, being in the proportion of one rifle to each company, and the equipment of accoutrements is of the same dimensions. The 38th takes its turn with the other regiments at Dover in garrison duty, with its modicum of muzzle-loaders; and the men off duty, since they have no waistbelts, and since it would be the height of brutality to confine to barracks, on account of its lack of waistbelts, a regiment just arrived from India, are to be seen in the streets "improperly dressed," to quote the military phraseology. Captain von Donnerwetter, of the Prussian staff, writes to his English friend that he is about to make a visit to the island, over the military history of which he has pored so many hours when a student at the Kreigskademie. The English friend thinks it only right to go down to Dover to meet the Captain as he touches British soil. The Captain duly arrives. Friend, who has ordered dinner at his club, suggests procedure to town by the usual train. But the Captain is not to be hurried; he has read of Dover and its fortifications and defences, from the Castle Keep to the newest lines, from Queen Elizabeth's pocket-pistol to the latest 9-in. gun. The Captain insists on exploring Dover, and gathering from its garrison his first impressions as to the appearance and bearing of British troops. So the twain, after a slight refraction at the Lord Warden, sally forth on their way to the castle. The first military encountered are a "walking out" party of the Rifles Brigade, dapper, neat, and jaunty, from the love-lock on the right temple to the trim waist-girt by the black belt. The Captain goes into grave ecstasies of admiration, and "Wonderful!"—the smallest word in his mouth. The friend buoyantly hums "Ninety-five, ninety-five," alternated with the "British Grenadiers," promenades the flag-stones with a proud and semi-martial tread, and is dwelling with his mind's eye on a picture of a whole army corps of Jäger fleeing in disorganisation before a sub-division of Prince Arthur's battalion. As the pair turn the corner of the street, there meet them full in the face a couple of men in red tunics, baggy trousers, and coarse old-pattern caps. Neither shows any waist at all; there is a total absence of shapeliness about the tunic, that "krunkles" up in wrinkles on the chest; for the belt that should keep it trim and taut, and give general neatness to the figure, is not to be seen on either pedestrian. "What are these?" asks the Captain, scanning them critically through his spectacles. Friend—a little disconcerted, and the "British Grenadiers" having terminated with some abruptness—attempts to turn the matter off. "Oh! men on fatigue, or militia perhaps, these fellows without waistbelts; you must make some allowances, you know, Captain, for our landwehrmen." "Nay," says the Captain, "these are no landwehrmen, for I see a regimental number on their shoulder-straps, and were they on fatigue would it be that they might walk into a guest-house with some maidens?" For, in truth, an adjournment of the kind indicated by the Captain has taken place. The Captain grunts the kind of grunt to which in quiet corners General Blumenthal was so much addicted while the autumn manoeuvres were in progress, and the pair walk on towards the citadel. They halt when they reach the first garrison sentry. The sentry is a fine stalwart fellow, and is marching to and fro on the sky line with a brisk, soldier-like step. Friend's spirits rise as the Captain halts and cocks his spectacles in the direction of the sentry. "Not a bad style of man," friend presently interpolates, with a view of "drawing" the Captain's expression of opinion. The Captain does not seem to hear the observation. After a long deliberative stare, he solemnly takes off his spectacles and puts them in his pocket, as he mutters audibly, "Gott, if he walks not with a muzzle-loader! We breechloaded the Danes out of Schleswig in 1861." And as the pair proceed further, and pass garrison sentry after garrison sentry, the Captain's *sotto voce* exclamation ever is, "More muzzle-loaders, more muzzle-loaders!" For in very truth it is the 38th whose turn it is to find the garrison duty for the day, and the unfortunate fifty-six stand of muzzle-loaders, the sole armament of the regiment, are on show for the edification of the German Staff Captain, who proceeds to London pondering gravely over the problem which the sight has suggested to him, whether all he has heard about the Snider as the universal armament of the British Army, while the Henri-Martinis are being turned out at high-pressure speed, is not insular dust flung into Continental eyes.

That Captain and correspondent have alike found a mare's nest is apparent when the facts of the case are detailed. After son fourteen years' good service in India, the turn came round for the 38th to return to England. The regiment, when it left England in 1857, had been armed with Enfield rifles—with Enfield rifles it had borne the brunt of many a hot fight in the days of the Mutiny, and as the time approached for its return home its arms were still the Enfields it had brought out. Whether, in common with all our regiments in India as well as at home, it should not have had breech-loaders served out to it some time ago, is a question that it is probably easier for the curious to ask than for the authorities to answer conclusively. But, no such distribution having taken place previous to the approach of the time for the return of the 38th, it was obviously wise on the part of the authorities to allow the regiment to come home for its breech-loaders, in preference to sending out the breech-loaders to India to no other purpose than that they should almost immediately be brought back again. The line of action adopted in this case is in accordance with what has been the invariable practice; and a regiment armed with muzzle-loaders leaves its arms behind for the use of the sepoys and other native troops, bringing home with it only as many weapons as are required for the performance of guard duty on board ship. Thus it was that the fifty-six Enfields, which now form the sole offensive arms of the gallant 38th, found their way back to England. The regiment landed at Portsmouth on the 9th, and at once proceeded to Dover, where, as part of the garrison, it has devolved upon it, as we have said, to do garrison duty in its turn, using for this duty its modicum of muzzle-loaders and accoutrements. But the breech-loaders were lying in Dover Arsenal, waiting the arrival of the regiment. As soon as possible after that event the serving out of them and the accompanying accoutrements began, and is now complete, nearly, if not altogether. But, as all soldiers know, arms and belts must be marked and numbered before issue to the men; and this duty is necessarily a regimental one. Marking and numbering is busily going on in the store-rooms of the 38th; and in the course of a few days the issue of arms and accoutrements will take place, when muzzle-loaders will be no more seen on the cliffs of Dover, nor beltless privates escorting "maidenas" into its "guest-houses." It cannot be said that three weeks is an unreasonable length of time to be consumed in drawing, marking, and issuing the arms and accoutrements of a whole regiment; and for the rest, the whole matter has been one of the simplest routine.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.—A deputation from the London School Board waited, on Tuesday, upon the Home Secretary, on the subject of increasing the number of industrial schools. The activity of the officers of the board had gathered up 4,000 "poor unfortunate and neglected children" out of the streets; but that had filled all the industrial schools. The board must, therefore, give up this part of its work unless the Government would allow the system to be extended by certifying as industrial schools those new buildings which private persons—with the assistance of the school board—were willing to erect, and by permitting the enlargement of existing schools. Mr. Bruce, in reply, said he should propose that the Government should not refuse those applications, but that in future the grant will be reduced from 3s. to 3s. 6d.

ILLUSTRATED TIMES

THE NATIONAL EDUCATION LEAGUE.

The following circular, which has been issued by the managing committee of this body, contains the reasons for the adoption of a new programme of the league:

"Birmingham, Jan. 27, 1872.
 "We desire to call your particular attention to the following statement laid before the executive committee, at its meeting on the 17th inst., and to the resolutions adopted therein: — The National Education League was founded to promote the establishment of a national system of education, locally administered, compulsory, unsectarian, rate-supported, and free. The intention of the founders was to supplement the deficiencies of existing schools by the creation of new schools, under the management of school boards elected by and responsible to the rate-payers in all districts of the country. It was hoped and believed that by the influence and example of such schools, and by the superiority of their management, the conductors of all existing schools would ultimately be led to associate themselves with the new system, so that a really national system would gradually take the place of the denominational schools, which, in private and irresponsible hands, have afforded, and can afford, only partial and inefficient means of instruction, in consequence of subordinating secular teaching to the inculcation of sectarian theological doctrines. These hopes and expectations have been disappointed. The measures introduced by her Majesty's Government—most objectionable in its original form—issued from Parliament in the shape of a concordat between the Ministry and the advocates of sectarian teaching. Instead of providing for the establishment of a national system, under the control of elected boards, it strengthened and extended the sectarian system, encouraged applications for new building grants for denominational schools, rendered inevitable the imposition of a new church rate upon the country, created an incessant and increasingly-embittered religious difficulty, and perpetuated a system by which national taxes and local rates are intrusted for expenditure to irresponsible private persons, over whose teaching the community has no control. In addition to this, the Ministers of the Crown, of their own motion, raised by one half the payments to sectarian schools, thus enabling them, in many cases, to dispense with local subscriptions, on the faith of which national funds were originally granted to school managers. The result is that upwards of 3200 applications have been made for new building grants, involving an expenditure of £600,000; and that the annual grant for school maintenance will probably be increased by one half, the whole of this amount going into the hands of irresponsible persons for the direct promotion of sectarian interests and the teaching of sectarian doctrines, chiefly those of the Anglican Church and of the Church of Rome. By these means, and by the further means of grants (by the payment of school fees) under the authority of school boards, these Churches, and other religious bodies who may choose to participate with them, secure a concurrent endowment at the cost of the State and of local communities; and, by the strengthening of existing interests and the creation of new interests, the establishment of a national system of education will become increasingly difficult with the progress of time. It is, therefore, necessary for the advocates of a national system to develop their plans, and to give their movement a direction in accordance with the state of things created by the united action of the Government and the denominationalists. It is no longer possible to secure the original objects of the league by merely endeavouring to supplement the deficiencies of the denominational system. The efforts of the league and of kindred organisations must be directed towards remodelling the present system in such a manner as to secure efficient control by the State and the rate-payers, and at the same time to afford to the denominations the fullest opportunity of giving religious instruction in accordance with their respective opinions. For this purpose the plan of separate religious instruction (already conceded in principle, though imperfectly recognised in practice by the conscience clause) must be extended to all existing schools. In this way, and in no other, can the claims of the denominations be reconciled with the right of a nation to a complete, uniform, and efficient system of teaching in secular subjects, controlled and directed by those who provide the necessary funds; a system freely open to all classes; based upon the principle of compulsory attendance; and abstaining from any violation of the right of conscience. In accordance with requests from leading members of the League, the executive took into consideration the position of the education question as affected by the working of the Education Act, the increase of building grants for denominational schools, the increase of the annual grant, and the demands of the Irish Roman Catholic prelates for a sectarian system of education. After mature consideration, the following recommendations were adopted by the Executive Committee, as indicating the manner in which the principles of the league are applicable to the circumstances thus created:—

"1. The compulsory election of school boards in all districts.

"2. No schools to be recognised as public elementary schools but those under the control of elected school boards.

"3. Existing school buildings to be placed, by consent, under the control of such boards, for use during the hours of secular instruction, to be given under the direction of school boards; the buildings to be retained for all other purposes by the denominations with which they are connected.

"4. Any school in respect to which such control is declined, to be excluded from participation in the annual Government grant.

"5. In all schools provided by school boards out of local rates, periods entirely separate and distinct from the time allotted to ordinary school teaching may be set apart for instruction in religion on week days. Such religious instruction to be given by denominations at their own cost, and by their own teachers appointed for that purpose, but no privilege to be given to one denomination over another. In cases of dispute, appeal to be made to the Education Department."

THANKSGIVING SERVICE AT ST. PAUL'S.—The arrangement of the interior of St. Paul's Cathedral for the forthcoming thanksgiving service is to be commenced in a few days, and during the time occupied by the preparation of the ordinary daily and special services will be suspended. The order of the service upon the occasion is to begin with the "Te Deum Laudamus," sung by 250 voices to the accompaniment of the organ. This will be followed by a special form of prayer, after which an anthem, composed by Mr. John Goss to words selected from Psalm cxviii., will be performed. This will be succeeded by a short sermon, at the end of which a hymn is to be sung, in which the congregation will join. The tune for the hymn will be "Casa," the composition of the Prince Consort. After the delivery of the eulogy, by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the service will be concluded.—*Morning Post*, Tuesday, the 27th inst., has been fixed for the ceremony.

DEBRETT'S PEERAGE AND BARONETAGE.—As a standard work of reference, "Debrett," in point of antiquity, is without a competitor. Its size has continued upwards of a century and a half, and some idea of the vast number of changes which it has recorded may be gathered from a few facts relating to last year. The number of peers removed by death was eighteen; of peers, thirteen; of baronets, thirty-one; and of knights, thirty-three. Two peerages became extinct; four new ones were created, two peers were advanced in rank, and one was called from abeyance. Six baronetcates were created, and four became extinct. Twelve new members of the Privy Council, and thirty-nine gentlemen received the honour of knighthood. Both works overflow with facts, and, although slight errors may creep in where 14,000 alterations have to be made every year, the support given to "Debrett" speaks volumes for the general correctness of its pages.

CHANGES IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—When the House of Commons re-assembles, on the 6th inst., the following members will be entitled to sit in their seats:—Mr. Watney, for East Surrey, in the room of Mr. Buxton, deceased; Colonel Hogg, for Truro, in succession to Captain Vivian, now Permanent Under-Secretary for War; Mr. Isaac Butt, Q.C., for the city of Limerick, in the room of the late Mr. W. F. Russell; the Solicitor General, on his re-election for Dover; and Mr. Bates, for Northampton, in succession to Sir R. P. Collier, who has been elevated to the peerage. New writs will be moved for the Wick Burghs and West Cheshire, consequent upon the resignations of Mr. Leach and Mr. John Tollemache; in a few days later for North Notts, from the representation of which the present Speaker will retire. Sir John Coleridge and Mr. Dowe will take their seats as Attorney-General respectively for England and Ireland, and under the Reform Act of 1867 it has not been necessary for either to be re-elected, both having previously held offices under the Crown.

DEAN STANLEY ON THE ART OF PRINTING.

On Sunday morning the establishment of a fund, to be devoted to the relief (by way of annual pensions) of the aged and necessitous daughters of printers, was inaugurated by Dean Stanley in Westminster Abbey. The fund is to be called the Westminster Abbey Pension Fund, and is established in commemoration of the fact that the art of printing in England emanated from Westminster Abbey. Dean Stanley took his text from Genesis, "Let there be light." The words were not to be taken as an exact exponent of scientific truth. If they were, we should find ourselves in endless difficulties as to whether light could have existed before the creation of the sun and moon, as to the time of the creation of the stars, and as to the relation of the Hebrew to the other cosmogonies of the earth. But, putting aside all these questions, and taking the Bible and the book of Genesis in their true aspect, then the text presented no difficulty, and was full of the deepest meaning.

It was the first expression which the Bible contained of the Divine will. It was, according to the conception of the sacred writer, the first command which broke the silence of eternity. It was the first tribute to the paramount greatness, the inestimable value, of light over darkness in all the coming ages of the world, then first struggling into existence. Well might the ancient heathen philosopher exclaim on reading this passage that it was the very model of sublime expression. Well might the English poet, in his long solitary night of blindness, draw from this text his own lofty reflections. Those who had ever visited the great city of Strasburg might remember it contained in its market-place the image of its most renowned citizen, the first founder of that noble art which they were met to-day to commemorate. On the pedestal of that statue were written the simple words, "Let there be light." The words were indeed no exaggeration of the great event which that statue celebrated. There was light. In a few years from the time that Gutenberg set up a press in Strasburg the treasures of ancient learning were scattered over Europe, a new world was discovered by Columbus, and the great day of the Reformation came. From that simple mechanical contrivance rays of light were shot forth which found their way into cottage and palace, castle and cavern, and the light thus kindled became, by reason of its own strength, absolutely inextinguishable. Never did the appliances of matter so assist the efforts of the mind. Never did the human intellect so identify itself with the marvels of mechanical skill. One of the first founders of the printing art, the companion of Gutenberg, became the subject of one of the most striking efforts of the genius of a great European poet. In the work of "Faust" the great German represented the struggle of human intellect in its search after truth, in its craving after light, in its grappling with the great problems which agitate human thought, and of which the invention of printing was the first pledge and emblem. The art of printing, the legend and drama of "Faust," represented the spread of light in its purely intellectual aspect. In the spread of English printing the same truth was expressed, but under a softer and gentler atmosphere. Caxton, the venerable patriarch of English printers, set up his printing-press, as he himself had said in the titlepages of his earliest works, in Westminster Abbey, within the precincts of the Chapel of St. Ann, beside the ancient Almonry. There he worked under the fostering care of the kindly Abbot whose tomb in the northern aisle had lately been rescued from long neglect. Here, also, he received the patronage of the princely lady whose tomb may be still seen within the abbey walls. The connection between Lady Margaret and William Caxton was never lost. It was recalled again and again in the titlepages of Caxton's printed works. Caxton's monument was to be found in the neighbouring Church of St. Margaret, but of the ancient Almonry in which he worked not a vestige remained. His memory was well retained in the singular name given by printers to their meetings, which have over them, as it were, a holy atmosphere. After referring to Dean Milman, who, while a Canon in Westminster Abbey, had inaugurated a fund called the Caxton Pension, Dean Stanley concluded by making a powerful appeal on behalf of the charity inaugurated that day. A sum of £93 5s. 6d. was collected after the sermon.

HOMES FOR WORKING BOYS.

The first festival of an institution for providing homes for working boys in London was celebrated, on Tuesday night, by a dinner at the London Tavern. Colonel Hogg, M.P., chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Works, took the chair, supported by Sir Charles Jackson; Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P.; Mr. T. Chambers, Q.C., M.P.; Mr. Robert Hanbury, Mr. George Hanbury, Mr. George Moore, Mr. H. Willans, Mr. A. D. Chapman, Mr. A. O. Charles, Mr. Quintin Hogg, the Rev. R. Moore, Mr. G. H. Frean, Mr. C. D. Fox, Mr. C. R. Ford, and others. About ninety ladies and gentlemen sat down to a well-served dinner. The first toasts, "The Queen," proposed by the chairman, and "The Prince and Princess of Wales and other members of the Royal Family," proposed by Sir Charles Jackson, having been responded to with great heartiness, the chairman gave the principal toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Homes for Working Boys in London." After a few remarks upon the educational advantages offered to the boys who became inmates of these homes, the chairman said that among these might be mentioned the fact that the boys were taught to cultivate a manly spirit of independence. The institution was not entirely charitable, the boys being obliged to pay a portion of their earnings for food and clothes, besides a certain sum, proportionate to the amount of their wages, for rent. The children who left the numerous charitable institutions in the metropolis and began to earn their own living sorely needed well-ordered, clean houses, where they would be under some kind of supervision for the first few years of their lives, and would find themselves in a wholesome, moral atmosphere, and it was to assist in affording such timely help that the benevolent founders of this institution now appealed to the public. Two homes—one in Portman-square and one in Spital-square—had already been established, and he invited all who felt interested in the success of this important work to go, as he had himself done, to these homes, and see the excellent results of the movement. Mr. George Hanbury, the treasurer, in responding, gave some instances from his experience of the useful working of the institution in removing boys from the temptations which would beset them in the common lodging-houses, to which but for these homes they would be driven. A large sum of money was needed, in order that new homes might be opened. There were other homes, conducted on a somewhat similar principle, which were also doing good work. Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., in proposing the health of the chairman, congratulated Mr. Hanbury on being the originator of this excellent scheme. The chairman, in responding, said he had received several subscriptions from employers of labour, who were pleased to have honest, well-conducted boys, of whose moral character they could get a satisfactory account. Mr. Thomas Chambers, M.P., in proposing the committee and stewards, argued that the institution, although not perhaps entirely benevolent, was entirely charitable in the best sense of the word, since it helped those who helped themselves. Mr. A. O. Charles, the hon. secretary, in acknowledging the compliment, explained that the cost of maintaining each home was about £300 a year. In the two homes there were eighty boys, whose average earnings were—in the West-End home 7s. 2d. per week, in the City home 6s. 6d. per week. Altogether, their earnings were about £1450 per annum. They paid for their food and clothes, and from 1s. per week upwards, according to their earnings, for rent. The balance of rent, the cost of supervision, teaching, &c., had to be met by subscriptions. The two homes had been at work two years; and Mr. Morley had now offered to fit up and furnish third, and to pay the rent for four years, if the subscribers would undertake to carry out the work. For the first time, they had appealed to the public; and he was glad to say that a liberal response had been made to the call for assistance. He then read a list of subscriptions, headed by the chairman's list with £588, and amounting altogether to £1260. After the

speeches the company withdrew to another room, where a concert was given by the members of the West London Amateur Orchestral and Choral Society, conducted by Mr. W. Bertram.

THE RE-ARMAMENT OF EUROPE.

NOTWITHSTANDING the close secrecy which always surrounds military matters in Prussia, it is well known that an unusual activity prevails in the Government workshops, and that most of them are being enlarged to the extent of tripling or even quadrupling their working capacity. It is proposed to re-arm the entire effective force of the German Empire, except Bavaria, within five years, which would imply an average production of small-arms of at least 200,000 per annum, whereas hitherto it has been considerably less than half that number in all the German States together.

It is interesting at this moment to review the condition in which other European States and we ourselves are, in regard to facing the many new and difficult problems which the general introduction of breech-loaders as the soldier's weapon involves. The old muzzle-loader could be made, more or less well, by any gunsmith with the ordinary appliances of his trade; and it is only within the last ten or fifteen years that the manufacture of small-arms by machinery has commenced on a scale of any magnitude. For the breech-loader, however, machinery of a special and expensive kind is indispensable. Its essence is a mechanism more or less ingenious, more or less simple; but, whatever its pattern or the system may be, it cannot be efficiently made in large numbers made by hand cheaply. In fact, a military breech-loader, to be of first quality, should be in all its parts interchangeable—that is to say, any one of, perhaps, twenty or thirty pieces in the mechanism should fit into 100,000 or more arms of the same description. It has therefore become as much, if not more, the engineer's work as the gunmaker's; and that country is the best prepared for a sudden emergency which possesses the most complete establishments of this character, whether public or private.

There can be no doubt that the Americans are in this respect very much ahead of all European countries, not even excepting Great Britain. The War of Secession gave them what they themselves would call the "start;" and when, after 1865, the enormous demand for military breech-loaders arose, some three or four great factories—notably Colt's, that of Messrs. Remington, the Providence Tool Company, &c.—were able to deliver between 300,000 and 400,000 improved rifles, sometimes with incredibly short periods of delivery; while Great Britain, even under the exceptional stimulus of the Franco-Prussian war, did not probably export 50,000 Sniders, and was utterly unable to produce a new pattern within the short notice allowed. It must here be remarked that a great factory toolled for any particular system of breech-loading arms has very serious difficulties to contend with in manufacturing another, and cannot do so without much outlay of money and time. Yet all such establishments prepare themselves *ab initio* for some particular system, which they furnish in preference to others, and which is generally that adopted by the Government of the country. This difficulty of changing from one system to another accounts for the backwardness of most Continental Governments in going to the vast expense of State establishments of this sort until the system of breech-loading shall be definitively decided upon, which it is not yet in the majority of European countries.

Next to America will shortly be Russia. That Government is now hurrying on contracts here and in America for fabulous quantities of machinery intended for a gigantic small-arms factory in the centre of the empire, which, when completed, will turn out about 200,000 a year of breech-loaders on the Beroe principle.

Austria has in Styria a great factory capable of turning out about 80,000 a year on the Werndl principle.

France has a factory at St. Etienne, worked in partnership by the Government with a private company, which is able to furnish about 100,000 Chassepots per annum. It is, however, only partially toolled upon the "interchangeable," or "machinework," principle, and the French military authorities are said to entertain a project of erecting an additional and larger factory according to the most modern mechanical improvements.

In Belgium, although the export of military arms of a secondary quality—chiefly hand-made—is very great, there is as yet no establishment of the kind we refer to.

The same is true of Italy and Spain, in both of which there are arms factories of a certain importance, but upon the old-fashioned method. In both countries the respective Governments contemplate the erection of extensive national small-arms factories, so soon as they shall have decided what system of breech-loading to adopt.

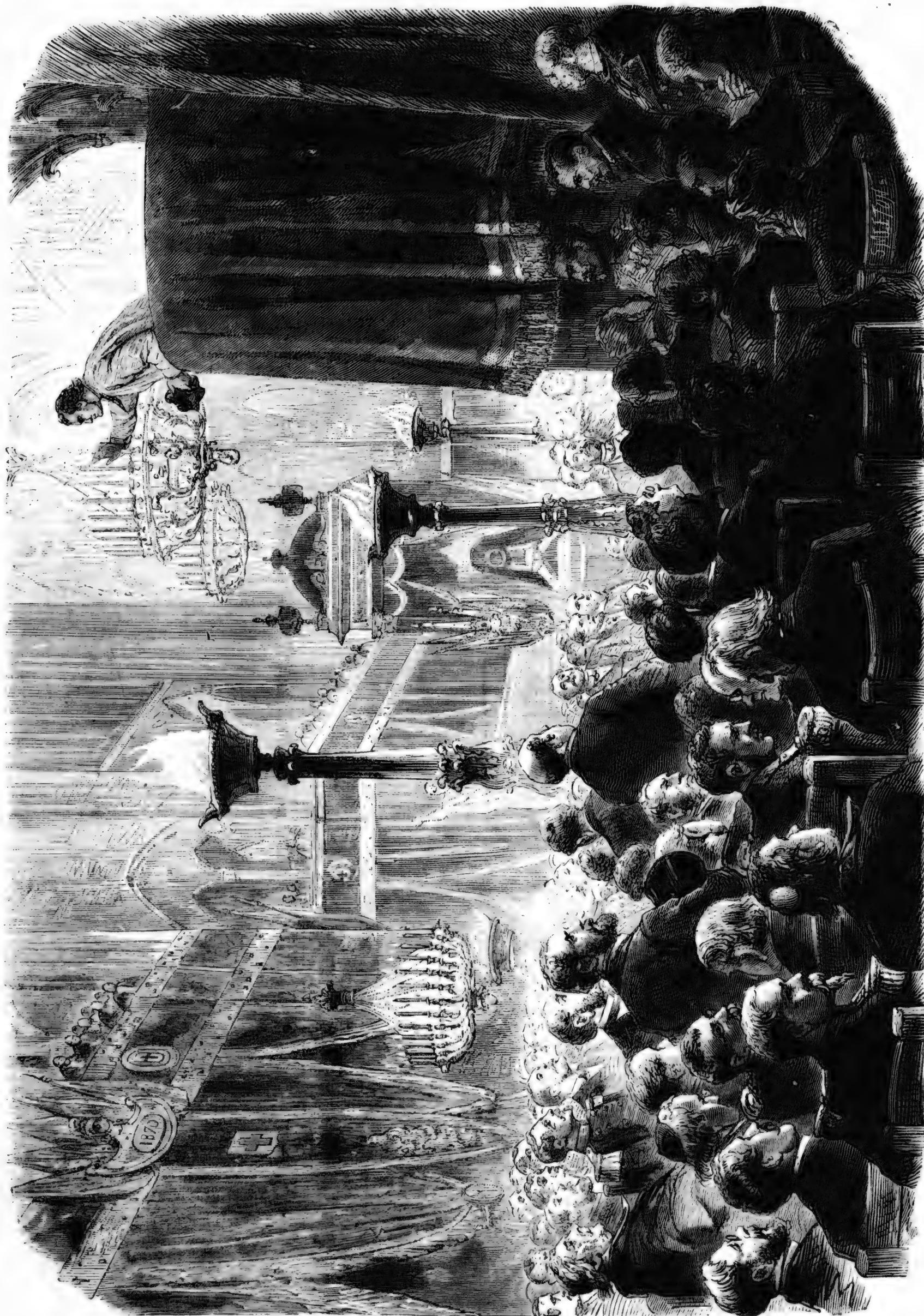
Compared to its population, Bavaria ranks very high in its productive capacity of arms. Having adopted the Werder some years, and been under way with the manufacture before the late war broke out, it is now able to furnish about 210,000 per annum of that description of rifle.

Switzerland, which stands alone in its adoption of a repeating rifle for its infantry, the Vetterli, has only just commenced the execution of a contract for 80,000, which will occupy about two years, and which is given out to a number of private manufacturers, each making a special part. The principal small-arms factory in Switzerland is that at Neuhausen, near the falls of the Rhine, which is chiefly machined and toolled for the manufacture of the Vetterli.

Great Britain has unquestionably the model of a Government establishment of this kind in the Royal Ordnance Factory near Enfield, the plant of which is now being altered for the manufacture of the new service arms, and which within the last year has been very much enlarged. Outside of this quite exceptional establishment the productive capacity of this country can scarcely be said to be in proportion with its enormous mechanical resources. The chief private establishments are the Birmingham Small-Arms Company, originally designed for the manufacture of the Snider; the London Small-Arms Company, on a smaller scale, with the same view; and the Westley-Richards Arms and Ammunition Company, which has only recently established its works. Leaving out of question the sporting rifles and so-called military arms which are exported in enormous quantities to the East and to Africa, the productive capacity of the "trade" of an approved Government pattern has probably never exceeded 100,000 a year; and now that this pattern has been replaced by another, it is doubtful whether the Government could within the next year or two depend upon the industrial resources of the country, as they are at present, for more than an average of 50,000 arms outside of its own factory.

Altogether, the requirements of European States alone within the next five years may be safely estimated at about 5,000,000 stands of arms of various descriptions, which, with existing appliances all the world over, could not possibly be supplied in fifteen years, even if no changes were impending in the armament of every country. This comforting reflection may be derived from the fact that, bating political thunderclaps, we are authorised to hope for a long respite from war; for a terrible experience has proved that upon the more or less judicious manner in which this question of re-armament is met by each Government and country its very existence may depend; and all, therefore, show a wise prudence in solving the problem before entering on a trial of strength. Upon the whole, and although there is much yet left to be done, we may say that we hold our own on this point with our more military neighbours, and that in some respects we have anticipated them.—*Standard*.

SEVERAL GENTLEMEN connected with the Alexandra Orphanage, Hornsey-ridge, a few months ago, offered to give 100 guineas each, in payments of 25 guineas per annum for four years, provided the list of those willing to do so was made up to fifty. There are now forty-three subscribers to this special fund, and the committee earnestly appeal to the benevolent to help them to complete the number, so that the debt on this useful charity may be extinguished.



COMMEMORATIVE RELIGIOUS SERVICE AT NOTRE DAME, PARIS, IN HONOUR OF THE SOLDIERS KILLED DURING THE SIEGE BY THE GERMANS.

FUNERAL SERVICES AT NOTRE DAME.

THE funeral ceremonies at Notre Dame in honour of those who died in the defence of Paris has been one of the principal items of French social intelligence during the past few days, and we are able to publish an illustration of the scene near the rostrum or pulpit from which the address was delivered. The solemnities were organised by the society in aid of the sick and wounded, and the whole cathedral was draped in black, while upon the black banners loosely hung the Geneva red cross. In the midst of the choir, in front of the altar, was an immense catafalque, supported on silver columns, with a pediment of silver, with black drapery, and decorated with French flags and colours. A great crowd of distinguished persons assembled to take part in the ceremonies, which were responded to by the keen sympathies of everyone within the vast building.

IN THE ZILLERTHAL.

WE have published in former Numbers of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES Engravings of some of the magnificent scenery of the Eastern Alps, the mountain peaks of which are year by year becoming more familiar to intrepid excursionists, who, following the trustworthy guidance of explorers like Mr. John Ball, discover fresh objects of interest at every visit. One of the last of our Illustrations was that of the bridge at the foot of the Löfferspitz, and we this week complete the series by two suggestive pictures of representative spots in the same portion of the Zillertal range, one of the most picturesque and charming of the Tyrol chain. Proceeding from the solitary hamlet of the Zemthal, known as Ginzling, and standing at the confluence of the Floienthal, the traveller who wishes to ascend the Löfferspitz, or Löffler, has to proceed through the glen of the Floienthal amidst scenery so wild and striking that they who do not care to go further are well rewarded for the labour of ascending as far as the foot of the glacier.

On reaching the level of the upper glacier the traveller bears to the right, and commences a long and steep ascent, at first over ice, which soon gives place to névé, to reach the crest of the main range, between the desired summit and a snowy point projecting between the Löfferspitz and the Schwarzenstein, the view of which is represented in our second Illustration.

THE GAMING-TABLES OF THE CONTINENT.

HOMBURG was crowded last year. The tables were doing a thriving business. Their proprietors appeared delighted to win, and the players not unhappy to lose. One thing alone marred the general sense of enjoyment. The fat of the German Parliament had gone forth that in two years gentlemen and ladies were to be deprived of the pleasure of staking their money, and their kind, good friends who made this easy for them were no longer to be allowed to pursue their work of benevolence. In vain had Imperial William been appealed to. Imperial William was very sorry; but he had constitutional qualms, and could not venture to interfere with his Parliament. Poor M. Blanc, the principal proprietor of the establishment, was a pitiable sight as he wandered sadly about the gardens of the Kursaal and explained to his sympathising friends how he was to be deprived of his means of subsistence (he is worth, it is believed, above £100,000) by an iniquitous attack upon private property. There is an ancient man—M. Duché by name—who for years unknown has been the master of the ceremonies at gambling establishments. He commenced his life at Frascati's, during the first French Empire. When public gambling was suppressed in Paris, he fled to the Baths of Lucca, where he set up a modest roulette-table. The Italians are wondrously clever at anything connected with gambling, and they literally managed to break M. Duché. Then he flitted to Geneva, and thence to Homburg. "I had hoped," he said, with tears in his eyes, "to end my days here. I have married. I have a house." He seemed to regard himself as some old feudal baron, and to take it as a personal insult and a mighty grievance that he was not to be allowed to sink quietly into an honoured grave, waging to the last a lifelong war against the public. The croupiers and minor employés connected with the establishment are most of them ex-waiters. They are well paid, and, as a rule, have wives and families. Habit has enabled them to assume a dignified, impassive air, as, like the Fates, they cut short the thread of many a poor devil's resources. They are not very likely to find situations as clerks when the last days of Homburg have passed, and they shudder at the thought of again assuming the napkin. The townspeople, of course, are indignant, and curse German unity. No gambling means no high prices and few pigeons. It means a reasonable charge for a room, and a reasonable charge for a dinner. Everyone who is not an hotel or a lodging-house keeper at Homburg is a banker or a dealer in curiosities. The "banker" not only cashes circular notes, but he hangs about the tables and offers accommodation to "every young fool who is known to be rich." The youth's bills are discounted at a rate which would make many an estimable Hebrew in London almost die with envy, and half what is called cash is advanced in lottery tickets which never gain a prize. The dealer in curiosities is a sort of marine-store dealer—he is ready to buy anything, from a watch to



IN THE ZILLERTHAL: PASSAGE OF THE SCHWARZENSTEIN.

an old pair of trousers; but, unlike the banker, he believes in no rumours of wealth; his money is only forthcoming against a real, tangible security. Besides the townspeople and the recognised employés of the Kursaal, there are a large number of worthy fellows—the tag-rag of France and the bob-tail of England—who make Homburg and the gambling establishments in its neighbourhood their hunting-ground, and who one way or another have managed to live on the fat of the land for many years. They are supposed to understand the intricacies of the game of trente et quarante far better than novices, and they are ready to give their services in playing a "system" for a consideration. Each one of them manages to get a few clients during the year; and, with a good system, a few clients, as many a lawyer knows, may be made to go a very long way. What these practitioners would do without public gambling establishments it is difficult to imagine. As a rule they are cheery, kindly beings, but utterly incapable of an honest day's work.

But it is not only those who in various ways live by the Kursaal to whom its closing will be a bitter blow. Eels get accustomed to being skinned; gamblers literally like it. It is very rarely that the desperate gambler of the old-fashioned novel is to be seen at a public table. The votaries of trente et quarante and of roulette have an appearance of thoroughly enjoying themselves whether they win or whether they lose. Few of them, indeed, imagine that in the long run they are likely to increase their incomes. What pleases them is the excitement of risking their money. Occasionally a person hangs himself upon a tree in the garden; but this is rather because he has no more money to risk than because he has no more money to spend. The genuine gambler plays not for gain, but for the pleasure of playing. Gambling is

to them not a means, but an end. In the salons thousands are lost and won impassively by persons who are playing, not with surplus incomes, but with capital, without a gesture of sorrow or of pleasure. The only people who get excited, and who make a disturbance, are the old women; and principally the old Englishwomen. These crones go in the morning to the tables with a dozen florins; they meditate half an hour before risking one of them, and if they lose they utter loud complaints, and endeavour, if possible, to recoup themselves by stealing from their neighbours; and seldom an hour passes without the imperturbable Duché, who has the manners of an old French nobleman, being called upon to adjudicate between the rival claims of half a dozen hags to a florin. Englishmen who once pass a few weeks at Homburg almost invariably go back. It is melancholy but ausing to watch them gradually, step by step, sinking into confirmed gamblers. On their first arrival they profess a disdain for games of chance. They take walks in the morning, they read the newspapers, and they gossip and flirt in the afternoon and the evening. For the first week they look on at the games for a few minutes every day; then they commence making abstruse calculations in secret corners on bits of card, and they change a circular note. They vow that if they lose it they will risk no more. They do lose it, and then they lose another, and yet another. Their doom is sealed; they form part of the permanent dividend which is paid yearly to the shareholders in the concern. The decorous Britisher, too—a churchwarden at home, perhaps, and the standing chairman at many a public meeting—is a curious study. He approaches the table by stealth, generally when his wife and his daughters have gone home to dress for dinner. He stands behind some voluminous French damsel. His arm is stretched towards the table, half hidden by her flounces. When he has staked his money he looks vacantly at the chandelier, and when he wins he manœuvres with a rake to get hold of his napoleons in a secret, furtive manner. If a friend comes in he even leaves them rather than compromise his position at home, as a stern and unbending moralist, by taking them up. When he returns to England he descends before his fireplace upon the abominations which he has witnessed, and his wife and his daughters and his friends believe in him, and are proud to be connected with such a pillar of virtue.

The inhabitants and the visitors to Homburg must have heard with delight that the French Government has it under serious consideration whether public gambling-houses shall not be established in Paris and in other French towns. Paris is to the nomades on the Continent the Mecca to which their eyes are ever turned. To live there, and to be able to gamble from morning to night, and from night to morning, is a vision of happiness to which in their dreams they have long hopelessly aspired. It appears by no means unlikely that the proposal will seriously be carried out, for France has to pay the Prussians a large amount of money, and France dislikes being taxed. To the Treasury the pecuniary advantages would be undoubtedly. In 1818 the Paris gaming-tables yielded 9,600,000 francs, whilst the expenses of keeping them up amounted to 1,517,160 francs. For the privilege of farming them 6,000,000 francs was yearly paid to the Government. There is four times as much loose money floating about in the French metropolis now as there was then; the privilege would therefore be worth four times 6,000,000 francs. At Nice, at Bordeaux, and at other large towns and watering-places similar licenses would be put up to public competition. It is therefore no exaggeration to say that about £1,500,000 yearly might be netted by the "scheme." Besides this, wealthy strangers would be attracted to the country, and would spend their money in it. The direct pecuniary gain is therefore clear and palpable, and its opponents in the French Chamber will have some difficulty in combating its adoption by arguments showing its indirect evil. In its favour it will be said that this is an age of speculation; that everyone speculates at the Bourse; that there are clubs in nearly every French town where gambling is carried on almost publicly without the State reaping any advantage from it; that Frenchmen have only to cross the frontier in order to lose their money at trente et quarante, and that, therefore, now that travelling is so cheap, they already have gaming-tables at their doors. In England the reply to all this specious nonsense would be easy. Our moral sense would be offended were a Chancellor of the Exchequer to propose a reduction of the income tax, accompanied with a lucrative plan to make up the deficit by keeping a Government "hell"; and London commercial men would protest, in the names of their sons and their clerks, whom they would not wish to be exposed to such a temptation. In France, however, there is no moral sense—at least, as regards gambling—to appeal to. If a Frenchman plays high his neighbours think no worse of him; it is a matter which exclusively regards himself. As for the sons and the clerks, it would be said that they could not play without ready money, and that the tills would be made too strong for them to break them open. If "hells" are established in Paris they will drive a thriving trade for two or three years; strangers will be attracted to the capital and will spend money among the tradesmen, and Parisians will rejoice. Then there will be a reaction. We shall have dismal tales of how Monsieur has hanged himself, and how Monsieur, instead of minding his shop, is going to the



IN THE ZILLERTHAL: ON THE WAY TO THE LOFFERSPITZ.

dogs. The French national character will, if possible, become even more flabby than twenty years of Imperial misrule has made it. Pamphlets will be written ascribing this to the public toleration of gambling. Some "George Barnwell" play will be brought out at a theatre and have an immense success, and then a new and virtuous era will be inaugurated, in which gaming-houses will find no place. So wags the world at the other side of the Channel.

A year and a half ago the French could boast of their victories, while the Germans were not ashamed of their hells. Now, Germany celebrates her victories over France, and hands over to her neighbour a monopoly of the latter. It is sincerely to be hoped that M. Thiers will remember the arguments which he used in 1836 to prove to the French Chambers how degrading to a country and demoralising to a nation the existence of public gambling establishments is; how, like a lottery, it attacks the very basis of that economy upon which the progressive wealth of a people is founded; and how it leads men to desert their slow but legitimate ways of accumulating money, and makes the nreckless speculators instead of honest traders. Gamblers, it is true, will always find a means to gamble, but the Government of a country ought never to give them facilities to indulge in their passion or derive a revenue from encouraging it. The petty German Princes who increased their revenues by building up Kur-salons used to forbid their own subjects to enter them. The Frankfort merchants, in their own interests, signed an agreement not to employ anyone who gambled at Homburg or Wiesbaden. The tradesmen of Nice petitioned against the toleration of the neighbouring hell at Monaco, and the Prefect of the Maritime Alps obliged its Sovereign to prevent any inhabitant of the Department of the Alps from putting his foot within it. Geneva has been forced to give up its gambling license. In the valley of the Rhône there is a hell, and the Swiss have done their best to force the canton in which it is situated to prohibit it. The gambling establishments in Belgium and Germany are doomed. The Italians are in want of money, and they have been offered large sums to allow gambling in Venice and other towns, but they have had the public spirit to refuse them. France has assuredly sunk low enough in public estimation without deliberately going a step further on the downward course.—*Daily News.*

MUSIC.

WHEN the Sacred Harmonic Society revived Handel's "Deborah," in December, 1869, the impression made was not such as to warrant frequent repetition. Handel, as is well known, did not do himself justice in his second oratorio. He thought that the strength of his genius lay in opera, and "Deborah" was carelessly thrown together as means of raising money for the prosecution of more serious objects. Hence the work can boast of little merit in its airs; and, though the choruses are fine, at least two thirds of them are adaptations from the composer's anthems and psalms. That, under such circumstances, "Deborah" has lived so long, and is still thought worthy of occasional performance, proves the strength of Handel's genius, which, even in its feeblest action, did imperishable things. The performance yesterday week was directed by Sir M. Costa, the author, as will be remembered, of some well-written and judicious "additional accompaniments." Nearly all the choruses were impressively rendered, while the airs recived justice at the hands of Madame Sherrington, Miss Elton, Mr. Kerr Gedge, and Mr. Lewis Thomas. Mr. Thomas gained an encore for the finest solo in the work, "Tears such as tender fathers shed." At the society's next concert will be performed Haydn's third (Imperial) mass, Mendelssohn's "Lauda Sion," and Spohr's "Last Judgment."

The classical portion of the Crystal Palace programme last Saturday was magnificent. It comprised Mozart's overture to "Idomeneo," the same master's symphony in G minor, and the great "Leonaora" overture of Beethoven. Here was music, indeed; and when we say that the performance was worthy of the music, it may be imagined what a treat the amateurs present enjoyed. Probably, a finer rendering of the symphony was never given. All the delicate, tender beauty of the work was brought out with infinite care; and the entire orchestra moved with the precision of machinery, plus the life and feeling of intellect and heart. Nothing, in short, could be nearer perfection. Two novelties were brought forward at this concert—a nocturne for horn and orchestra by Herr Reinecke, and a concerto in E flat for piano, by Abbé Liszt. The first is a very colourless affair, and, though it was admirably played by Mr. Wendland and the band, it made no impression whatever. The second made several impressions—first, that it is a rhapsody, ugly and meaningless; next, that Mr. Dannreuther, who played it, can get over any amount of mechanical difficulty; next, that he might better employ his time and talent than upon such stuff; and, lastly, that the Crystal Palace managers should keep their programmes free from Liszt's wild imaginings. With these remarks we dismiss the concerto, which, in so far as it pretends to be music, is unworthy of criticism. The vocalists were Madame Bentham-Fernandez and Mr. Bentham, who sang very pleasingly a selection of operatic pieces.

The Saturday Popular Concerts were resumed in St. James's Hall on the 27th ult., when the combined talents of Madame Néruda, Herr Ries, Mr. Zerbini, Herr Straus, Signor Piatti, Madame Arabella Goddard, and Mr. Sims Reeves attracted an enormous audience. In the programme were a number of familiar and popular works, such as Mozart's quintet in D major, Mendelssohn's piano-forte quartet in B minor, and Handel's "Suite de Pièces" in E, containing "The Harmonious Blacksmith." The last was played to absolute perfection by Madame Arabella Goddard—who, indeed, knows no equal in its rendering—and excited such enthusiasm that the familiar air and variations had to be repeated. Signor Piatti contributed Boccherini's sonata in A, a favourite show-piece of the accomplished violoncellist; and Mr. Sims Reeves sang, to Madame Goddard's accompaniment, the inimitable "Adelaide" of Beethoven.

At Monday's concert Madame Arabella Goddard again appeared, introducing a sonata in C minor by Dussek, which had probably never before been played in public. The reader will, we hope, take our word for the beauty of this long-neglected work—so far, at least, as is necessary to induce him to examine it for himself. We cheerfully incur the responsibility of disappointment. Madame Goddard easily charmed her audience by its means, thanks to playing which left no merit unrevealed. How often our English pianists thus broken ground needs no telling. She is ever seeking "fresh woods and pastures new," while a kind of instinct leads her to where the woods are leafiest and the pastures most succulent. By her work last Monday she laid amateurs under a fresh obligation—an obligation which those present readily recognised and did their best to discharge. Other items in the programme were Mozart's sonata for piano and violin in E flat, Schumann's quartet in A minor, and the famous septet of Hummel. All these were capitally played, and gave evident satisfaction. The vocalist was Mr. Bentham.

Mr. Boosey gave another ballad concert in St. James's Hall on Wednesday, but nothing was done to call for special observation. The artists were those who had appeared before, except that Miss Linda Scates made her début as solo pianist.

THE NEW CANON OF BRISTOL.—The Rev. Nugent Wade, M.A., who has been nominated by the Lord Chancellor to the canonry of Bristol Cathedral vacant by the death of the Rev. Henry Moseley, was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, where he took his B.A. degree in 1828, when he gained a scholarship for classics and science, and was classical gold medallist. Having served some London curacies, he was nominated in 1839 to the incumbency of St. Paul's Church, Bunhill-row, which he held until 1846, when he was collated by Bishop Blomfield to the metropolitan rectory of St. Anne's, Soho, which he at present holds. Canon Moseley also held the vicarage of Olveston, near Bristol, worth about £1000 a year; and, as this is a Chapter living, Mr. Wade will probably take it. In that case, the nomination to St. Anne's, Soho, worth about £800 a year, will fall to the present Bishop of London.

DR. LYON PLAYFAIR, M.P., ON UNIVERSITIES AND EXAMINERS.

ON Wednesday evening Dr. Lyon Playfair, M.P., delivered an address in the Queen-street Hall, Edinburgh, on teaching Universities and examining boards. The subject had, he said, recently received a large amount of attention on account of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's speech at Halifax. Mr. Lowe represents a University of a peculiar character, which is a mere examining board—one, it is true, of high character, but having none of the traditions or habits of any other European Universitatis; and, captivated with the spirit of the University which he represents, Mr. Lowe has announced stirring views as to the position which the State should take in relation to the Universities of the kingdom. He (Dr. Lyon Playfair) knew, from an active correspondence Mr. Lowe's speech had brought upon him from the Irish and Scotch Universities, that they at least had come to a single interpretation of his meaning. They conceive that the immediate, though not the expressed, purpose of his speech was to prepare the public mind for a conversion of the Irish and afterwards the Scotch Universities into mere examining boards. In reply to Mr. Lowe, he denied his definition that "a University is an examining board." There was nothing in history to justify this definition, except the single instance of the University of London, founded thirty-three years since. In fact, from the very earliest days the teaching and examining functions of Universities had been united. After referring at some length to the Universities of China, Italy, Belgium, Germany, and France, in which last-named country they had been changed into an examining board, Dr. Playfair said that the University of London was a mere examining board compared with that of Edinburgh, and argued that the results of the latter were by far the most satisfactory. He thus continued:—"A University, fulfilling its purposes to the nation, is, or ought to be, something far higher and far more useful than even a combined teaching and degree-conferring institution. It ought to be one of the great intellectual treasures of the nation—always stored to the full with the richest learning; it ought, through its educative functions, to be the distributor of that wealth to those who can use it well; and it ought in itself to be productive and creative of new treasures of science and literature by the researches of its professors. None of our Universities in the United Kingdom are, to the full extent, that they might and should be in these three points; many in Germany have become so during the last half century. Their union is perfectly compatible with teaching. 'The greatest advances,' says John Stuart Mill, 'which have been made in the various sciences, both moral and physical, originated with those who were public teachers of them, from Plato and Aristotle to the great names of the Scotch, French, and German Universities.' As a general rule, the best investigators have been the best teachers. A smaller conception than I have given is unworthy of a University in the present age. It is this conception that has made Germany great in the last half century; it is the want of that conception which has made France little. You may have teaching institutions, examining boards, and institutes for the advance of science and literature, but not one of these forms a University. Only when they are united by a common organisation, mutually supporting each other, each efficient organs of a common body, is the idea of a University complete, or the possibility of large results attainable." He thought that when Mr. Lowe said that teachers should not be examiners he only meant that teachers should not examine their own pupils, and he would assent to this to the extent that they should not do so without the presence and assistance of extra academical examiners, and he thus concluded:—"Twenty years ago there were many who thought that a low standard of education was sufficient for primary schools, and who expected to find the salvation of the country wrapped up in the three R's. Now few thoughtful educationalists concur in this view, for experience has proved that our system of low primary education has only produced readers who do not read, writers who do not write, and arithmeticians who do not count. Instead of being an economy of public money, the system of low education has squandered the treasures of the nation upon a perfectly worthless article. It is true that, at a huge expense, we have bought the complex tools of education and given them to the working classes; but, as we have not taught them how to use the tools, they have remained useless and unproductive in their hands. As the public have learned this lesson, and are taking steps to profit by it, we may safely trust to advancing public opinion, even on the subject of higher education. We may, therefore, postpone the discussion of the question whether the development of higher thought and intellect in a country is part of the *opera basilica* which a State should undertake, or whether it is governed by the same conditions of supply and demand that ensure to us not only bread but also butter. The subject of my address, however, could not be postponed, for there is an emergency that the constitution of the Irish Universities may be changed, and an error of principle introduced in their case may prove of lasting injury to the whole kingdom. It was right, therefore, that the public should hear both sides of the question. They have already before them the opinions of Mr. Lowe, as representing a new University, having no ancient traditions, and singular in its aims and habits. It is meet also that the representatives of ancient Universities, which have enjoyed a long experience, should give expression to their convictions."

SIR DOMINIC CORRIGAN, being challenged for his absence from the late education meeting held by Cardinal Cullen in Dublin, writes to an elector of the city, stating that in his opinion there ought to be one national University for Ireland, the constitution of which should be such as to command the confidence of all parties; that its degrees should be open to all candidates wherever educated; that the State should give equal aid to those who desire to have denominational education and to those who do not. The Government, he predicts, will introduce an education bill next Session, and he wishes to consider it "unfeathered."

MISS BARLOW, the daughter of the Mayor of Newton Abbot, fell into the River Limon, on Monday, and was carried off by the current before any assistance could be rendered. Some of her companions, seeing her fall in, raised an alarm; but she was washed down the stream nearly a quarter of a mile, the greater part of the way in a tunnel under the town. On her emerging from the tunnel a man named Richard Adams succeeded, by means of a ladder, in seizing her and saving her life. She was much exhausted.

TERrible STEAM-BOAT ACCIDENT IN SOUTH AMERICA.—On the night of Dec. 23 a terrible calamity occurred on board the steamer America, a passenger vessel plying between Buenos Ayres and Monte Video, soon after her departure from the former port, by which an immense number of lives were lost. In consequence of the Christmas holidays, there was a much larger complement of passengers on board than usual, a large number of whom were Germans; and it appears that in the dead of the night an explosion was heard, which woke up most of the passengers, who rushed on deck to learn the cause. They were told, however, by the master, Captain Bossi, that it was nothing more than the bursting of a steam-pipe, and that there was no danger, upon which they returned to their berths. In a few moments the cry of "Fuego!" ran through the ship, and flames were seen issuing from the after part of the vessel. In less than five minutes the whole of the ship was in flames, and a fearful panic prevailed, the captain being the first to lose his presence of mind and jump overboard with a life-buoy. Of all the boats on board only one could be lowered, the others remaining fast in the chocks, and the increasing fury of the fire rendered it impossible to loose them. A rush was made for the life-buoys and for any planks that could be found, to obtain which a general struggle took place, women and children being thrust aside in the tumult, and knives and revolvers freely used. The flames at last got complete mastery over the vessel, and everybody was obliged to jump overboard to escape being burnt alive. The occurrence was observed by the steamer Villa del Salto, a rival to the America, and which was making the same trip. This vessel put back to the scene of the disaster, and by her means all those remaining floating on the surface were rescued. The number of passengers on board the ill-fated vessel was upward of 200, and of these it is feared no less than 130 have perished; amongst them Mr. Peter Beare, C.E. It is stated by the survivors that the explosion was not the bursting of a steam-pipe, but of the boiler itself, and that it was due to the captain's persistence in keeping up too great a pressure, in order to compete with the Villa del Salto, the rival steam-ship. The greatest indignation is felt against the captain, who, it is expected, is to be put upon his trial.

FIRES IN LONDON.

THE annual report of the London fires of 1871, addressed by Captain Shaw, the chief officer of the Fire Brigade, to the Metropolitan Board of Works, has just been published. Carefully and elaborately compiled, the report gives the most comprehensive information as to the services rendered by the brigade during the past year; and it will be seen from the following interesting statistics that the service has lost none of its efficiency. The total number of calls for fires, or supposed fires, received during the year was 204. Of these 204 were either false or chimney alarms, 1812 were fires resulting in serious damage, and 1635 in slight damage. The fires of last year, as compared with those of 1870, show a decrease of 104; but, compared with the average of the last ten years, there is an increase of 362. The proportion of serious to slight losses—207 to 1635—is even more favourable than that of the last few years. The number of fires in the metropolis in which life was seriously endangered in 1871 was 82, and the number of these in which life was lost was 28. The number of persons whose lives were endangered by fire were 219, of whom 181 were saved.

Of the 38 lost, 12 were taken out alive, but died afterwards in hospitals or elsewhere, and 26 were suffocated or buried to death. There were 3838 calls for chimneys; of these 1279 proved to be false alarms, and 2559 were for chimneys on fire. The number of journeys made by the fire-engines of the 50 stations has been 7392, and the total distance run 20,242 miles.

The quantity of water used for extinguishing fires in the metropolis during the year was 16,204,547 gallons—in round numbers, a little more than sixteen million gallons—or about 72,312 tons. Of this quantity about half was taken from the river, canals, and docks, and the remainder from the street pipes.

During the year there have been twelve cases of short supply of water, thirty-five of late attendance of turncocks, and twenty of no attendance—making altogether sixty-seven cases in which the water arrangements were unsatisfactory; but, notwithstanding this, Captain Shaw makes no complaint of the water companies; on the contrary, he once more, as in former years, testifies to the great zeal shown by them in obviating or mitigating the defects of the very imperfect system which has grown up, rather than been established, for supplying water in the metropolis. Captain Shaw specially acknowledges their cordial assistance and co-operation.

Every engine of the brigade carries a complete set of turncocks, tools, and consequently water can always be obtained when it is in the pipes. At present, however, the complication of mains, services, and sluice cocks is such that cases have occurred in which even skilled turncocks have failed to procure water quickly, although it was known to be in the immediate vicinity. It remains (the report goes on to state) to be seen what the result of the Metropolis Water Act of last Session will be; but it may be hoped that the provision for constant service, which comes into force on April 21 next, will have the effect of making every fireplug represent an immediate supply of water. It would be desirable that all owners of houses, especially holders of property in warehouses and other large buildings, should ascertain for themselves how they stand with regard to their water supply, and should make their own arrangements with the water companies. It cannot be too widely known that at present there does not exist any public authority for regulating the water supply, and that the whole arrangement is simply one of private negotiation between those who have water to sell and those who wish to buy.

After expressing his great obligations to the police for their valuable assistance and co-operation, Captain Shaw desires to add an official recognition of the extraordinary and unceasing kindness of the public to himself and every member of the brigade. The nature of their business frequently compels them to act in a way characterised much more by vigour and promptitude than by any apparent regard for the feelings of others; but the public invariably gives them the credit of endeavouring to do everything for the best. The strength of the brigade is at present as follows:—50 fire-engine stations, 93 fire-escape stations, 4 floating stations, 51 telegraph lines, 82 miles of telegraph lines, 3 floating steam fire-engines, 1 iron barge to carry a land steam fire-engine, 8 large land steam fire-engines, 17 small steam fire-engines, 16 seven-inch manual fire-engines, 56 six-inch manual fire-engines, 13 under six-inch manual fire-engines, 104 fire-escapes, 387 firemen.

The number of firemen employed on the several watches kept up throughout the metropolis is, at present 107 by day and 169 by night, making a total of 276 in every twenty-four hours; the number of those sick, injured, on leave, or under instruction is generally about 40; the remaining men are available for general work at fires.

There have been during the year 323 cases of ordinary illness and 95 injuries; making a total of 418 cases, one of which terminated in death.

The fatal case was that of Joseph Ford, who was killed on duty at Gray's-inn-road on Oct. 7.

Passing beyond the merely statistical value of these figures, the question becomes one of yet greater interest when we look into the causes of fires. Amongst these, we find that our chief enemy is the common candle. No less than 259 of last year's fires are set down as due to this origin. Lights carelessly thrown down caused 151. The much-maligned lucifer matches have but 58 fires to answer for on their own account, though 33 more are set to their credit when played with by children. Gas, in various ways, caused over 160 fires, and airing linen 30. After disposing of 316 as of unknown and 19 of doubtful origin, the report touches on some of the less common, or more occult causes. The "harmless necessary cut" caused one fire by "playing with lucifers." Fumigating bugs led to five fires. Five proceeded from intoxication on the part of their originators. Smoking caused no less than 43 conflagrations, one additional case being aggravated by the fact of the smoking having taken place in bed. Incendiarism has only nine set down to its charge. Amongst the trades and occupations the pursuers of which suffered, carpenters, corndalers, and drapers stood highest; oil and colour men were next in order. Forty-five fires occurred in stables, and 166 in lodgings.

THE STEWARDS of the Festival of the Three Choirs of Worcester, Hereford, and Gloucester, which is to be held this year at Worcester, have had a preliminary meeting. The festival is to be held in the nave of Worcester Cathedral and in the college hall either in the first or second week in September. The Rev. T. L. Wheeler has been elected hon. secretary, and Mr. W. Done, organist of Worcester Cathedral, conductor.

A LARGE NUMBER OF STAFFORDSHIRE COLLIES HAVE CEASED WORK, notwithstanding recent concessions by the masters and the acceptance of terms by one section of the miners. A conference, however, has been agreed upon, and hopes are entertained that the threatened great strike may be averted. Two thousand colliers assembled at Blaenavon, South Wales, on Tuesday, and resolved to join other miners and cease work unless the masters conceded an advance of 10 per cent in wages on Feb. 1 instead of on March 1, as promised.

THE LATE RAILWAY ACCIDENT IN FRANCE.—From the accounts in the French papers it appears that the railway accident which took place near Antibes has been attended by the loss of six lives, four passengers and the stoker and engine-driver having perished. The train left Menton for Cannes, on Wednesday, Jan. 24, at twenty-four minutes past four p.m. Owing to the continuous rains the torrents were much swollen, but the line was in no way affected by them, and the traffic went on in the usual manner. One of the torrents was crossed by a viaduct, called the Pont de Brugge, and here it was that the disaster occurred. The water, in its hurried course, had brought down a number of branches of trees and other débris of all kinds, which accumulated under the arches and formed a sort of barrier there. The station-master at Antibes, upon being informed of this, proceeded to the spot, and, foreseeing danger, stationed three men near to warn approaching trains. About half-past five o'clock in the afternoon the viaduct gave way. Shortly afterwards the train above referred to came up at full speed, and notwithstanding the signals made by the three men, dashed into the water, dragging with it the whole of the carriages, fourteen in number. Efforts were at once made to rescue the passengers. Twelve were found to be more or less seriously wounded, and the dead bodies of four others were recovered by midnight. The stoker and engine driver were also killed. Seven of the passengers received no injury. Fortunately there were only about thirty in the train. The engine and ten of the carriages were smashed to pieces by the fall.

THE TICHBORNE TRIAL.

FRIDAY week was the eightieth day of the Tichborne trial, and the tenth of the Attorney-General's speech for the defence. The learned gentleman, in reminding the jury of the part which Mr. Baigent had taken in reference to the affidavits filed in this case, brought several facts before their notice tending to rebut the statement of that gentleman that he had never "prepared" any witnesses. He contrasted the course followed by Baigent with that which would be pursued in an honest action, in which the attorney would see witnesses, take down their proof of what could be said, and not resort to arts and contrivances to procure evidence. Father Cooper and Father Guy had been called on behalf of the claimant; but, although they were both respectable witnesses, their testimony really went for very little. After speaking of the plaintiff's unwillingness to visit Stonyhurst, Sir John Coleridge narrated the circumstances connected with the arrival of the lock of hair from Melipilla, nearly four years ago. The claimant and his friends treated it as Roger Tichborne's hair; but at the time there was no Chili commission spoken of. After that commission, however, it was suggested for the first time that the hair was probably not Roger's; and the Attorney-General believed that, when carefully looked at, this lock of hair would be found conclusive of the case. Attention was next drawn to the Burton Constable expedition, and to the special reason why Mr. Baigent accompanied the claimant on that occasion.

On Monday the principal point upon which the Attorney-General first touched was the absence of several important documents from the mass of papers belonging to the Dowager, which the claimant was ordered to deposit in the Court of Chancery shortly after her death. Next the learned counsel dwelt upon the fact that although the plaintiff had made arrangements to go to Australia and Chili with the commissions which went out to examine witnesses, he did not accompany either. Sir John Coleridge suggested that there might be some reason why the plaintiff did not like to leave England; and it was this—he had previously paid various sums under the cloak of secrecy and disguise to the Ortons, and it would have been dangerous to go away and leave their demands unsatisfied, more especially as it did not appear that his advisers knew anything of his connection with them. Afterwards, when the weekly allowance to Charles Orton was discontinued, he went to the defendants' solicitor, and stated that the claimant was his brother. There was something, said the Attorney-General, in the Orton business which they could not unravel, and a great deal upon that head yet remained unexplained. The relations between the plaintiff and his legal advisers formed the subject of some severe criticism, and the failure of Mr. Sergeant Fullantyne to put Mr. Holmes into the witness-box was strongly commented upon. In any other case, and under similar circumstances, he would have expected either his Lordship or the jury to interfere, or the counsel on the other side to withdraw from its conduct. But the Tichborne trial still lapsed, he could scarcely tell how.

On Tuesday the Attorney-General traced the management of the claimant's case in Mr. Mojen's hands, after it had been given up by Mr. Holmes. The letters, however, which Mojen wrote to Baigent showed clearly that he had no confidence either in the case or in the plaintiff, and no doubt, by this time at all events, he saw how the truth was. The learned counsel next made some comments respecting Mr. Cater and his testimony, contending that it was of little value. Attention was also drawn to the manner in which his affidavit was used in connection with the floating of the Tichborne bonds. Reference was particularly made to a letter from Mr. Spofforth to Cater, when the latter was returning to Australia, asking him to make inquiries for Arthur Orton's address, and promising, if he brought Orton to England in time for the trial, £500 for each of them. In commenting upon the evidence of identification which had been laid before the jury, and the way in which the witnesses gave their evidence, Sir John Coleridge stated that he should call Mr. Alfred and Mr. Henry Seymour, Lady Doughty, and Mrs. Radcliffe, who, after the fullest opportunities of observation, would avow their unhesitating conviction that the plaintiff was not Roger Tichborne. A great part of the Attorney-General's other observations were directed to an analysis of the evidence as it bore upon the points of alleged similarity of certain physical developments in the claimant as compared with Tichborne.

On Wednesday Sir J. D. Coleridge began by referring at very great length to the accident which occurred to the eyelid of Roger Tichborne whilst on a voyage from Havre to Valparaiso. On that occasion a fish-hook suspended from a beam entered his eyelid, and an operation had to be performed to get it out. In March, 1867, the claimant was examined by Dr. Lipscombe, and at that time he never made the slightest reference to this accident. It was clear he did not do so simply because he knew nothing about it. It was incredible that if he was the real Roger Tichborne he should not have made some allusion to this accident in 1867, considering the great importance that had since been attached to the affair. The claimant had since given different versions as to how the accident happened, and had fallen into thorough confusion over it. The fact was that his stories upon this subject had been fabricated, and were utterly inconsistent with the truth. The same might be said of the plaintiff's account of the marks on his ankles. The doctors who had examined these marks would not swear that they might not have been of very recent infliction, and the suggestion of the defence was that they never were inflicted until after McCann had drawn attention to the fact that the real Roger Tichborne had been bled in the ankles, and would, therefore, have marks there. After drawing attention to other physical peculiarities of the claimant, as compared with those of Roger Tichborne, the Attorney-General went on to say that evidence would be called from Chili and Australia to show that Arthur Orton had upon his left arm the letters "A. O.;" and to have left these letters untouched would have been fatal to the claimant's case. The doctors would say that the mark on the left arm of the plaintiff was just such as would be produced by attempting to obliterate the letters "A. O." Roger Tichborne was tattooed largely,

yet the claimant had no marks upon him. If this fact alone could be proved beyond doubt, it must be fatal to the claimant.

On Thursday the learned gentleman was chiefly occupied in discussing the marks upon the persons of Roger Tichborne and the claimant respectively, the essence of his contention being that while the claimant had sworn distinctly, and had been obliged to swear, that he was not and never at any period of his life had been tattooed, the real Roger Tichborne had been tattooed beyond all question on two different occasions, and when last seen alive had the tattoo marks upon his body. Lord Belew, who had tattooed Roger Tichborne, and nine or ten other witnesses, would be called, and place beyond all question the fact of the tattooing.

ANOTHER SCHOOL-RATE PROSECUTION.

On Wednesday Mr. William Warburton, a member of the Salford School Board, was summoned before the justices at the borough police court (Mr. J. Leeming and Mr. James Higgins), for refusing to pay the sum of 16s. 9d. school-rate. It appeared from the statement of Mr. Woodruffe, the overseer, that Mr. Warburton had paid £9 4s. 3d. into court, whereas the total claim was £10 1s., the deficit being the amount claimed for school rates.

Mr. Warburton (who occupied a seat at the barristers' table), upon the case being called, rose and addressed the Bench as follows:—I appear here to-day with considerable regret. I come here, not as a martyr, though, possibly, as a victim. No one in Salford is more anxious to promote education, or more willing to pay rates used for legitimate purposes, than myself; but I cannot—and I say it with the utmost sincerity—conscientiously pay a rate used to support sectarian schools, to whatever denomination they may belong. I believe that no man can possibly be compelled or called upon to contribute in any form towards the support of the religious opinions of others. Upon this principle I should resist a church rate if it were levied. I regard the school rate as at present employed as tenfold more unjust and iniquitous than the Church of England rate. The Church of England rate is levied for the support of one denomination only; but the school rate is issued to support the religious opinions of an unlimited number of denominations. I consider it to be absolutely wicked to compel a Roman Catholic, for instance, to pay rates to support Protestant opinions. I deem it to be equally wicked to compel a member of a Protestant denomination [Mr. Warburton is an Independent] to pay for the support of Roman Catholic doctrines or opinions; and I believe it to be equally wicked to compel a man not belonging to any denomination to contribute peculiarly towards the support of either Protestant or Roman Catholic opinions. These are violations of the rights and liberties of the people which it is my solemn duty, as a good citizen, to resist to the utmost of my power. These principles in the main justify resistance anywhere, but circumstances in Salford greatly aggravate the case. Not only are the rates in Salford used for the support of sectarian schools, but the majority of the board persistently refuse to allow a single board school to be established. The result is that all those inhabitants who belong to denominations not having day schools, and also that very large section of the people not connected with any denomination, are compelled to send their children to the schools of sects with which they conscientiously differ, and are also compelled to pay rates for the support of such schools to their teachers. I regard this as not only opposed to common justice, but as a gross and palpable violation of the spirit and design of the Elementary Education Act, which not only justifies but demands resistance. Further, I am convinced that this conduct, opposed as it is to the intention of the Education Act, leads to a scandalous waste of the ratepayers' money. It is proved to a demonstration by the reports of the school board itself that since the larger expenditure of the rates has been incurred education has receded, and that the numbers of the children receiving instruction have greatly diminished. The injustice and waste are so great as to render impossible peace and harmony in the borough as long as it continues.

The Chairman here remarked that they sat only to carry out the provisions of the Education Act, and therefore they could not presume to listen to any argument which might be opposed to the law, which must guide them.

Mr. Warburton: I don't know why I alone have been summoned here this morning, but I feel it to be my duty to resist the rate by all proper means as a violation of my conscience. I am of opinion that the rate has not been legally levied. The Act requires that a precept shall be signed by two or more members of the board authorised to do so by a resolution of the board. I know that that has not been done by resolution in our school board; in fact, no precept at all has been passed by the board. I have paid £9 4s. 3d., the whole of the rate I have to pay, with the exception of 3d. in the pound for school-rate, which leaves a balance of 16s. 9d. Then, again, I would urge that the summons calling me here is dated the 29th ultimo. It was left at my house on Monday afternoon, but I did not see it until ten o'clock at night, and it requires me to attend here at a quarter to ten o'clock this morning. Thus only one day has elapsed, and that a day on which I am specially engaged, and—

The Chairman: You must very well know, Mr. Warburton, that we have only to sit here to enforce the provisions of the Act, and if you do not comply therewith there cannot be an exception made in your case.

Mr. Warburton: I shall protest, for the reasons named, most strenuously against paying the rate; but I would ask the Bench to grant me an adjournment, in order that I may have time to meet the case in a manner befitting its importance.

Mr. Woodruffe (overseer) objected, to an adjournment, upon the ground that the rate had been legally levied, and that he had nothing whatever to do with the private opinion of a member of the school board, or any other individual. Besides that, no notice of appeal had been given to the overseers or the assessment committee.

The Bench thought they might reasonably adjourn the case for a week, and decided upon doing so.

THE LONDON POLICE COURTS.

SAD CASE OF FORGERY.—At Guildhall, on Monday, Arthur Gilles, aged fourteen, was charged before Alderman Finnis with forging numerous cheques, in his father's name, on the Aldersgate-street branch of the London and County Bank. Mr. Mullins appeared for the prosecution. John Hawkins Ford said he was cashier at the above branch of the London and County Bank. On the 19th inst. the prisoner presented a cheque to him purporting to be signed by Mr. Hermann Gilles, his father, who had an account at that bank; and, having known him for about eighteen months as the son of their customer, he unhesitatingly gave him cash for it. Mr. Hermann Gilles said that he kept an account at the above bank, and the prisoner was his son. The cheque produced was not written by him, nor by his authority. The cheque had been taken out of his cheque-book. He usually kept it in his coat pocket, in the inner room, to which his son had access, as he was with him in his business all day long. He might by accident have left his book out on the desk occasionally. The handwriting on the cheque was that of his son. The prisoner said that he did not commit the forgeries, but that the cheques were stolen, the forgeries committed, and the money obtained by one of the men (whom he named) in his father's employ. He denied that he had ever received any money from the bank except upon cheques signed by his father. Mr. Gilles said he did not believe a word of what his son had just stated. Mr. Ford was recalled, and said that he paid the money on the forged cheque produced to the prisoner. Mr. Mullens said that there were seven other cheques he should have to proceed upon, and he would therefore have to ask for a remand, which was granted.

A HARDENED JUVENILE.—At Southwark, on Monday, James King, nine years of age, was brought up in custody from St. George's Workhouse, charged with being found wandering about the streets in a destitute condition, and apparently suffering from want of food and proper raiment. When before his Worship a few days ago, his miserable and sickly appearance led the Court to believe he was very ill, and he was sent directly to the workhouse, with directions that he should be immediately attended to. It was, however, soon discovered that he was an artful impostor. When questioned by the master of the workhouse as to his parents, he quietly said, "I'll consider about that, and give you an answer another time." When placed before his Worship on remand he seemed quite a different lad. The authorities had clad him decently, and he laughed at the deception he had practised on the officer. Thomas Ironmonger, the school board officer, said that, although so young, it was not the first time the prisoner had practised a similar trick upon the police. He was found apparently starving and dying from the inclemency of the weather, was taken to the station-house, and by his Worship's direction conveyed to the workhouse. Mr. Partridge asked if he had any parents. Mr. Ironmonger replied that he had a father, who was a bricklayer's labourer, and there were two young sisters. The father came forward and said he could do nothing with the prisoner. He had a good home, and the children had plenty of food. He had left the prisoner to take care of his sisters, but he ran away for days together. The prisoner, who seemed to take it all as a good joke, said he was induced to leave home by other lads. Mr. Partridge committed him to the Surrey Industrial School at Byfleet until he arrived at the age of sixteen, and ordered the father to pay 1s. per week towards his support.

A PLAUSIBLE SWINDLER.—At Lambeth, on Monday, Thomas Robinson, forty-five, living in Camberwell New-road, described as an "agent," was finally examined before Mr. Chance, charged with obtaining money under false pretences by representing that he was agent to trade protection societies. Mr. Cooper Wyld, barrister, appeared for the Mercantile Accountancy Society, and Mr. Woodhams for the prisoner. William Heaver, a dairyman, 62, Camberwell New-road, stated that, about Sept. 14 last, the prisoner came into his shop and asked him if he would like to become a member of the Mercantile Accountancy Society for the Protection of Trade, saying that one of his neighbours, Mr. Brooks, belonged to it. Witness said that as Mr. Brooks belonged to it he would become a member, and the prisoner asked him for 2s., as his subscription, which he paid him. The prisoner stated that the fee was for collecting debts to Sept. 14 next, and afterwards called and said he had received 5s. from two of witnesses customers, but had not paid him any money. The prisoner told him that he was employed by the Mercantile Accountancy Office in Cheapside. Mr. Lewis Quin said he was manager of the Mercantile Accountancy Office. The prisoner entered their employ in June last and left in July. He had no authority to collect debts. Witness never received any money from the prisoner in the way of debts. It was his duty to collect and pay over the subscriptions. Another case was entered upon. George Cowley, corn merchant, said he lived in Manor-street, Clapham. In November the prisoner told him he was agent to the British Mercantile Office, Old Bailey, and asked him to become a subscriber. Witness consented, and paid him £1 1s. as his subscription, and the prisoner gave him a receipt (produced). He believed the prisoner was employed by the society, but when he went to the office he found he was not. John Parker, Cramber-road, Brixton, fruiterer, said, about Oct. 10, the prisoner came to him and asked him to join the trade protection society, and said it was a good thing to collect debts. Witness joined the society, and paid £1 1s., and the prisoner gave a receipt, headed "British Mercantile Office." Mr. Herapath deposed that he was manager of the British Mercantile Office. In September the prisoner called on him and asked to be appointed as an agent, and he was to have a commission on all business he introduced; he had no authority to receive any money. The prisoner reserved his defence, and Mr. Chance committed him for trial. Bail was accepted.

A COSTLY DOG.—At Greenwich, on Monday, Mr. Francis Whitehead, a tradesman at Deptford, appeared to a summons charging him with allowing a ferocious dog to be at large unmuzzled, by which Henry Fermy was bitten. The complainant appeared with his right hand bandaged, and said

that on the 9th inst. he was leaving a house at Deptford when the defendant's dog jumped at him and bit him on one of the fingers. The defendant was present at the time and admitted that the dog belonged to him. Witness went to a medical man, who told him the wound was serious, and he had since been and still was under treatment for it at Guy's Hospital. The defendant, in answer to the charge, said he had had the dog in his possession about ten years, and had never before known it to bite anyone. The complainant had come to him and demanded that the dog should be either sent away or destroyed, and had asked for compensation to the extent of £5. He had offered to pay the expenses of the surgeon, but, the dog being a favourite, he declined either to send it away or to have it destroyed. Mr. Maude said the wish for the destruction of the dog to prevent fatal consequences from injuries inflicted by its biting was a foolish and superstitious notion. In the present case the complainant had received some injury, and there would be a fine of 10s., with £3 compensation, and 2s. costs. The money was paid.

SUPPOSED FENIAN OUTRAGE IN DUBLIN.—A curious case of alleged Fenian assassination has occurred in Dublin. A shoemaker named Melvin was found by a police-constable in the street, on Sunday night, bleeding from a wound in the abdomen, which he said, had been inflicted by a man named M'Garry. Melvin was conveyed to an hospital, when it was found that a pistol-ball had entered the right side a little above the hip, and passed out at the left side. M'Garry and another man named Donovan, it appears, had sent for Melvin to a public-house on Saturday night, and the latter was induced to go out into the yard to look at a revolver which M'Garry had to sell. According to Melvin's statement, M'Garry then deliberately pointed the weapon at his body and fired it. M'Garry and Donovan are in custody, and have been identified by Melvin.

DOUBLE MURDER FOR FORTY FRANCS.—At the Assize Court of the Meuse, at Saint-Mihiel, a man named Lahaye and a young girl named Catherine Gerbaux have been sentenced to death for the murder of an innkeeper and his daughter. On July 29 they were taking some refreshment at a small village inn near Harville, on the road from Verdun to Metz, when they saw the landlord, M. Lacaille, aged sixty-five, take out of a drawer forty francs, to lend to a neighbour, who promised to return it the next day. Attracted by this miserable sum, they returned to the inn on July 31 and asked for supper. While M. Lacaille went to the cellar to get some wine they fell upon his daughter, Clotilde, with a hatchet and a mallet. The father returned before she was disengaged, and heard her cries for help; but the wretches contrived to kill them both. They found in the drawer which they had noted the identical forty francs, which had been punctually returned, and only a few small pieces of German money besides. They escaped to Metz, but were soon suspected; and, on their extradition being demanded, were given up. They made a full confession, and the girl Gerbaux, on hearing her sentence, exclaimed, "I am a wretch who deserves death; let me be executed as soon as possible."

THE IRISH JURY AND LAND LAWS.—A deputation from the Ulster Land Occupiers Association waited on the Chief Secretary, on Wednesday, to urge a reform of the grand jury laws. They suggested the formation of county councils, and, where necessary, the county to be divided into ridings; the council to consist entirely of elected members, and to do all the functions now done by the grand jury and the road sessions, so far as fiscal business is concerned. They also referred to Mr. Bright's clauses in the Land Act, and suggested that an alteration should be made enabling the Board of Works in cases where two thirds of the tenants on the property are able to pay one fifth of the purchase-money, to grant a loan of the remaining four fifths at 5 per cent, repayable in thirty-five years, the purchasing tenant to grant to those unable to purchase leases of their holdings in perpetuity, at a rent and on conditions to be approved of by the Board of Works. And also that in the same way the board be authorised to grant to any purchaser in the Land Court a loan of three fourths of the purchase-money on similar terms as to rate of interest, &c., and lease to tenants. Lord Hartington, in reply, said the proposals for reforming the grand jury laws were of a somewhat sweeping character, and would doubtless encounter very strong opposition. The Government was aware of the importance of the subject, and hoped to be able to introduce a measure in the coming Session dealing with the subject of local government in Ireland. As to Mr. Bright's clauses, their suggestions were worthy of consideration at some future time; but he thought the Government and Parliament would feel that scarcely sufficient time had elapsed to observe the operation of the clauses of the Land Act, which it was generally admitted, and he thought they themselves would admit, were working satisfactorily.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JAN. 26.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.—G. W. HUNT, captain in her Majesty's 4th Hussars—S. NESBITT, Eastcheap—C. HALE, Cricklewood, builder—T. H. MARTIN, Lombard-street, wine merchant—S. SPENCER, Ventnor, livery-stable keeper.

BANKRUPT.—S. DENT, Shoreditch, brass-finisher—R. J. HAYNES, Lower Thames-street, wine merchant—R. J. LLOYD, Fenchurch-street, ropemaker—J. W. LOWICK, Aldergate-street, hosier—E. MERZELIS, Jersey, deputy inspector-general of hospitals in the Army—E. J. RANDALL, Bishopsgate-street, public accountant—E. ALLEN, Peinholer—C. W. TAYLOR, and J. A. CHARLES, Sheffield, steel merchant—L. BUCKLEY, Ormskirk, draper—D. EDWARDS, Upper Penley, tailo-chandler—F. JEPPE, Wandsworth—G. LOWRY, Salford, engineer—J. MAHANE, Leeks, bootmaker.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.—T. WILSON, Glasgow, grocer.

TUESDAY, JAN. 30.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.—J. CUTHBERT, Newton-le-Willows, farmer—G. E. ROBINS, Bristol, boot manufacturer.

BANKRUPT.—J. H. ASHTON, Liverpool, steam-ship broker—J. C. BROWN, Bedford, draper—R. BURN, Birmingham, farmer, Herts, farmer—H. W. CLEMONS, St. Mary, farmer—Sir A. P. C. FAIRLIE, Upper Norwood—H. MORRIS, Finchley, builder—B. TEMBLETT, Cudliffe, publican—L. FIELDEN, Todmorden, stone-mason—H. F. EBDON, Stratford, baker—G. TODD, Gateshead—H. MORRIS, Falcon-street, City, tie manufacturers.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—F. WERNER, Glasgow, ship store merchant—J. WILSON, Glasgow, baker—C. C. NYLES, Edinburgh, draper—J. ROANTREE, Glasgow, draper—G. PATERSON, Biggar, Lanarkshire, fleshier.

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Chapter V.—VIII.

English Poetry.

Wanderings in Japan. By A. B. Mitford.

Curiosities of the Carnival.

Lord Kilgobbins. (With an Illustration.)

Chapter LXXXII.—The Saunter in Town.

LXXXIII.—A Darkened Room.

LXXXIV.—An Angry Colloquy.

LXXXV.—Maurice Keane's Reflections.

LXXXVI.—Very Considerable Conversation.

LXXXVII.—Very Young Ladies on Matrimony.

LXXXVIII.—A Miserable Morning.

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